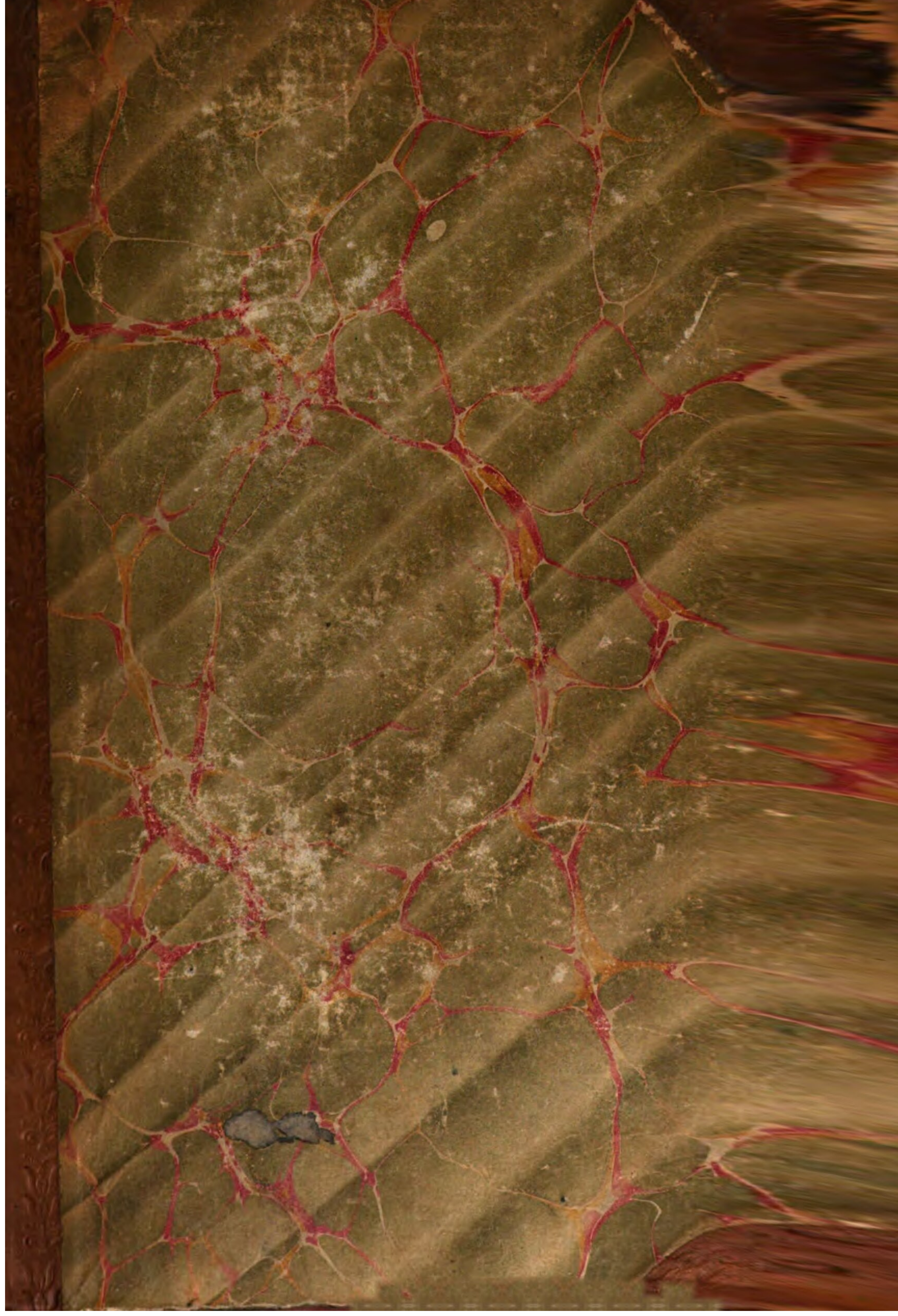
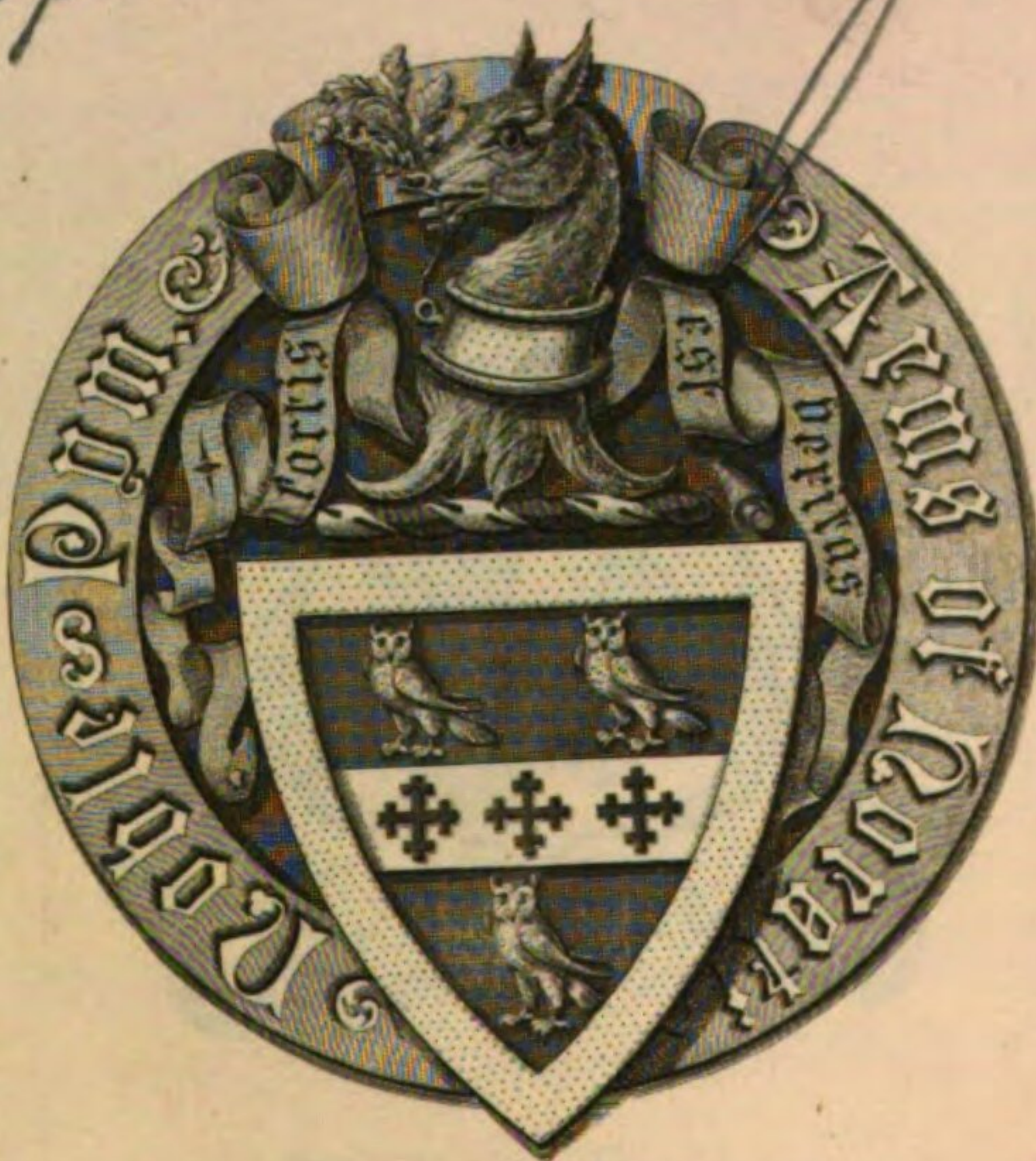




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MEMOIRS
OF
GEORGE THE THIRD,

Late King of Great Britain;

INCLUDING
CHARACTERS AND ANECDOTES

OF THE
BRITISH COURT:

WITH AN
IMPORTANT ADDITION OF SCARCE, CURIOUS, AND
ORIGINAL MATTER.

Embellished with numerous Portraits and Engravings.

BY JOHN BROWN.

Unmeasur'd praise all men of sense despise,—
“ PRAISE *undeserv'd*, is SATIRE *in disguise* !”
His virtues noting,—to his faults not blind,—
My aim has been—TO SHEW THE MONARCH'S MIND.



LIVERPOOL:

PRINTED AT THE CAXTON PRESS, BY AND FOR HENRY FISHER,

Printer in Ordinary to His Majesty;

Sold at 87, Bartholomew Close, London.

MEMOIRS OF GEORGE THE THIRD

With a History of Great Britain;

including

CHARACTERS AND ANECDOTES

OF THE

BRITISH COURT;

WITH AN

IMPORTANT ADDITION OF SCARCELY KNOWN, AND
ORIGINAL MATTER.

Illustrated with numerous Portraits and Engravings.



BIBLIOTHECA

REGIA

MONACENSIS

My aim has been—to show the Monarch's mind.
His virtues nothing—to his faults not blind—
“False severity,” is scarce to be denied.
I mean not to praise all men of sense and pride—



LIVERPOOL:

PRINTED AT THE CANTON PRESS, BY AND FOR HENRY FISHER,

Printer in Ordinary to His Majesty.

Sold at No. 1, Pall Mall, near the Theatre.

PUBLISHER'S ADDRESS.

FROM the commencement of this Memoir to the present hour, the publisher had resolved that it should neither become a vehicle to convey party sentiments, nor embody in its pages invidious allusions, to create irritation, and add to the prevailing ferment of political animosity.

It would have been easy by incorporating in this work remarks on a subject, at this moment mournfully popular, for the publisher to have become a partisan in those unhappy differences that continue to afflict the country and the throne; but with these painful circumstances the Life of his late Majesty has no necessary connection. It is a calamity which the nation cannot but deplore; but the publisher presumes not to anticipate a decision which time only can develop. His intention originally was, to publish a Memoir that should include such facts, incidents, and narrations, as might tend to elucidate the personal history of our late beloved King; and to this he directed the Editor to adhere.

The life of a Monarch must always be different from that of a private individual, because there are duties, obligations, and prerogatives, immediately connected with the title, that are exclusively his own. Men in exalted stations may imitate his dignity by an ostentatious display of greatness; but public discernment will always discriminate between Regal authority and the assumptions of affectation.

Every Monarch has two characters to sustain: one of these arises from his official situation, and the other from his domestic habits. In the former, we behold him seated on the highest pinnacle of worldly grandeur, where, decorated with the robes of state, he wields the sceptre, and holds converse with foreign nations: but in the latter, we perceive him descending from the dazzling eminence, laying aside the trappings of royalty, and unfolding, in a less ceremonious manner, the familiar characteristics which distinguish the husband, the father, the benefactor, and the friend.

Elevated on the summit of earthly glory, Monarchs, in their public capacity, are invariably exposed to popular inspection; and such words and actions as are immediately connected with their stations, rarely fail to undergo the scrutiny of the world. On these the multitude are always ready to form an opinion; and this will be either erroneous or correct,

PUBLISHER'S ADDRESS.

in the same proportion that the springs and sources of words and actions are concealed from observation or accurately known.

In the history of our late amiable Monarch, the public and private actions of his life so happily coincide, that he who is acquainted with the former, cannot be wholly ignorant of the virtues which adorned the latter. The eventful reign of George III. incorporated with our national history, will be transmitted to posterity, encircled with imperishable wreaths; and while his name shall be venerated by generations that are yet unborn, his character will be preserved as an example to future kings. Hence, of these public acts this work has taken only a transient survey. The incidents which enter into its biographical details, are chiefly of a more domestic character; many of these are at once scarce and interesting, but of such a nature as cannot be expected to find a place in our national records.

It is not, however, to be expected, that a work of this description should contain nothing but original matter. Selections have been made from various sources; but authorities have been readily acknowledged where any obligation of moment has been conferred.

In that branch of this Memoir, which includes the juvenile history of the late King, much original matter will be found, abounding with curious incident, and enlivened with anecdote. The individuals from whom this branch of information has been obtained, were witnesses of the facts which they have communicated; and their reputable characters remove all suspicion of their veracity. Of these witnesses the world will soon be deprived, their advanced age furnishing presages that the period is not distant, when they must follow their venerable master to the house appointed for all living. But their testimony will continue to be valuable when they shall be no more.

The Memoir, now brought to a termination, is in the hands of the public, who must be the final judges of its merits and defects. From imperfections of some kind or other no work of this description was perhaps ever wholly free. But if the light in which it aims to set the character of George III. shall, to an impartial reader, render it both amiable and just, its merits must be allowed to make an atonement for involuntary errors, and unavoidable deficiencies; and the community will realize the wishes of their very humble servant,

THE PUBLISHER.



Hicks sc.

George III

Written - February 12th 1806.

Published by Henry Fisher, Caxton, Liverpool. 1800.



Charlotte

From a Portrait taken at Windsor in 1815, by W. M. Craig,
Painter to Her Majesty & to the Duke & Duchess of York.

MEMOIRS
OF HIS
LATE MAJESTY
GEORGE THE THIRD.

PRELIMINARY MATTER.

THE confined limits of our Prospectus of this work, now circulating through the British Empire, unavoidably precluded that development of our plan and resources, which every reader has a right to expect. To supply this deficiency, we now proceed to introduce a few preliminary paragraphs, that the Public may be apprised of that solidity of basis, on which the Royal Caxton Memoir of His late Majesty rests its claims, not merely to general patronage, but to a decided preference, if not to unrivalled respect.

The length of time that has intervened, between the lamentable infirmity, which led to the appointment of a Regency, and the actual Demise of our beloved Sovereign George the Third, has furnished his present biographer with ample leisure for ransacking those public and private repositories of information, both at home and in foreign parts, through which he has been enabled to accumulate a large and valuable fund of scarce and interesting

matter, immediately connected with the splendid and eventful reign of our late venerable Monarch.

It must be obvious to all, that the occurrence of the awful catastrophe, which, though long expected, has cast a gloom over the whole empire, has laid open a rich fund of materials peculiarly adapted for the present work. On this melancholy occasion, private memoirs and individual depositories have poured forth their treasures, at once to excite the affections, and gratify the eager inquiries, of millions, now in tears, and to irradiate that illustrious character, which even death has not been able to dethrone from his people's hearts.

On the value and importance of these treasures, it will be wholly unnecessary for the writer to expatiate; but every one must perceive, that the foundations of Royal biography must lie buried in those half-concealed recesses, which, while they elude the eye of popular observation, furnish the secret springs of visible action, and give birth to those varied phænomena which adorn and diversify the exalted character of Royalty.

In addition to those floating materials, which give colouring, tangibility, and form, to the biography of our late revered and venerable Sovereign, to which all may have access, the long residence of the writer on the continent, his acquaintance with several languages in the northern parts of Europe, and those ample resources which enabled him to publish in two octavo volumes, "Original Memoirs of the Sovereigns of Sweden and Denmark," unfold to his view those primitive sources of information, without a knowledge of which, all biography and history must be either defective or erroneous.

With some continental potentates, the House of Brunswick is intimately allied. It is not therefore to be expected, that any historical details of this illustrious Family can be deemed worthy of public

attention, while foreign sources of information are inaccessible, or while these distant fountains of knowledge withhold their supplies.

The avidity with which some Booksellers and Publishers have already begun to send forth in breathless eagerness their accelerated Memoirs, must necessarily have left untouched many essential topics, which the Editor hopes advantageously to combine in the present work: and the opportunity which they thus afford him of correcting those errors into which they may occasionally fall, will give to his Memoir a decided superiority, which will more than compensate for that premature promptitude which characterizes their hasty compositions.

Independently of his own resources, the numerous anecdotes and incidents, with which the presses of the Metropolis continue to teem, in their various Periodical Productions, will enable him to select from the accumulated mass, the events which are most interesting. He will also have leisure to ascertain their authenticity; to detect and discard the fabricated portions; and to combine in one digested arrangement, such facts as bear the stamp of being genuine. Already has he perceived, obtruded upon the Public, among the biographical incidents of His late Majesty, thrown forth as from the sudden eruption of a volcanic explosion, not a few that are palpably false; and of such, as in point of authenticity, cannot be questioned, several are too trifling to be associated with the dignity of that character which he is about to delineate, and unworthy of preservation.

To examine these vehicles of biographical communications;—to make such inquiries as are necessary to ensure authenticity;—to detect accounts that are spurious;—to select the valuable from the worthless;—and to preserve that unity of design,

and dignity of character, which ought to distinguish a Memoir of His late Majesty, issuing from the Royal Caxton Press, is not the labour of a few days. These processes must unavoidably consume a considerable portion of time. This might, indeed, be obviated by calling in auxiliary aid: but every one, who is acquainted with literary compositions, must be fully aware, that if the whole work is not the produce of a single mind; if the choice and arrangement of its subjects, emanate from different pens; the Memoir will assuredly be proportionably destitute of that uniformity of spirit and expression, which is essential to the perfection of its completion.

But independently of all previous considerations, it would have ill become the Proprietor of the Caxton Press, who had the honour of being Printer to His late Most Gracious Majesty, so far to have forgotten the dictates of gratitude and decorum, as to have commenced the sale of this Memoir, ere the corse of him whose life it portrays had been consigned to the repositories of death. Those of his less ceremonious competitors, whom too keen a pursuit of gain may have led to violate that profound veneration and overflowing affection for a beloved and lamented patriarchal Monarch, would have displayed more wisdom, had they made fewer professions; and a better taste, if they had abstained from asking for exclusive credit on account of the rapidity of their motions.

Recurring to the rich, copious, and variegated materials now in his possession, and laid open to his research, the Editor proceeds with the development of that system of arrangement which he intends to pursue, and in which he fondly hopes no one of his competitors will accuse him of having *borrowed* a single idea from their more early communications. In thus announcing his intention of being his own architect, he is, however, aware

that in case of failure, he shall be exposed to the envenomed shafts of *spiteful* and anonymous critics; but if successful in obtaining his end, and producing a genuine, an amusing, and instructive book, the darts of malignity will only tinkle on his shield, and fall.

It is incumbent on the Proprietor to state, and it adds to the responsibility of the Editor in no less a degree, than it is pleasing to his feelings, that the latter goes to his labour altogether free and unshackled, not having received any other injunction than to exert his talents to their utmost capability to produce a book, which, by delineating an unvarnished character, will be adapted for all ranks of the WHOLE BRITISH PUBLIC.

In arranging the Memoir of His late Majesty, the Editor proposes to divide his life into periods; and after having given all that he conceives worthy of communication within the assigned limits, he will then, upon a regular system, proceed with the development of every other topic connected with that peculiar æra; when, having exhausted his materials, he will again return to his point of departure, and renew the biographical narration. By acting upon this principle of composition, he hopes to relieve the faculties of his reader, and to prevent that feeling of satiety or repletion, which would be likely to result from tracing each topic of investigation from the commencement to the close of His late Majesty's long and eventful life. In the execution of this delicate and important task, it will be his peculiar study to avoid a nauseating and disgusting strain of servile adulation towards the Royal Family; and it shall be no less his care to preserve his pages from every symptom of rudeness, insolence, or disrespect.

Were it not for the opportunity afforded by this publication, of laying before the British Public, some original, interesting, scarce, and obsolete

historical facts, illustrative of the origin and fortunes of those free and warlike Northern tribes, from whom the democratic spirit of our popular institutions have descended; and if the reader were not aware that the representative system of government, as well as the BRUNSWICK Family, are likewise descended from the same common ancestry,—the Editor would not have presumed to obtrude any Memoir of their lives or history, prior to the ACT of SETTLEMENT passed in the reign of the last of the Stuarts, which transferred the British Crown to the Princess Sophia of Hanover, and her descendants. In the eyes of the Editor, this would otherwise have been his starting-post, as, in the estimation of every Briton, it should be also esteemed the true “ORIGINAL GWELPHIÆ.”

This single event reflects more lustre upon the House of Brunswick, than all the previous memoirs of its chieftains; or all the pageantry which the greatest despotic throne can cast upon its hereditary chief.

It might appear equally ridiculous and presumptuous, were the Editor to suppose that he has made any new *discovery* as to the national character of our Saxon ancestors, during his travels on the Continent; but having trodden the ground which those warlike tribes inhabited, having acquired the language spoken by their lineal descendants, listened to their traditions, and perused the most ancient of their records, he has found many reasons for believing that there is still room for many valuable additions to our stock of national knowledge on that most interesting subject. And as there is strong presumptive evidence, proving that the House of Brunswick are lineally descended from those Saxon chieftains to whom England owes its name, its liberties, and consequently all its glory; as the descendants of those fierce warriors, more than twelve centuries later, were called from their native hearths, to preserve those precious

immunities, derived from their Gothic ancestry, he respectfully submits to his readers, a full and partly a new development of historical facts, illustrative of the tribes called Saxons; whilst on the other hand, not to intrude too far on the allotted space, he will contract that part of the Guelphic annals which embrace the time between the extinction of the Saxon monarchies, and that bright period when, for the conservation of its freedom, and by the voice of the people, the House of Brunswick was exalted to the British Throne.

It probably is not generally known to the British Public, that the Saxons (as they were erroneously, or at least, improperly termed) were a part of the Gothic tribes who proceeded from Scandinavia, and that, the coins of the Anglo-Saxon king Offa, and the records yet preserved in Denmark, Jutland, Sweden, and Norway, prove that, at that period, the languages, laws, and armorial bearings, were the same in England and in Scandinavia.

The Saxons, the Danes, and the Normans, are generally considered as distinct nations; yet it is capable of demonstration, that the three successions of conquering invaders, each of whom so completely subdued the inhabitants of this island, as to change, not alone the reigning dynasties, but the laws and language—all proceeded from the same origin; the Norman being also descended from the same parent stock.

In an old Gothic Chronicle, the Editor saw the etymology of the compound word BRUNSWICK, thus defined: i. e. *Brun*, a proper Gothic name; *Wic*, a place of retreat, a small creek, or inlet from the sea: *ergo*, Brunswick, the retreat, creek, or harbour of Brun. The name *Brun* is to be found in every part of the world where the victorious Goths carried their arms, and formed colonies. In Sweden, at the present day, it is spelt *Brun*; in Germany, *Braun*; in Holland, *Bruyn*; in France,

from the Normans, *Le Brun*: in Scotland, the pronunciation still *exactly* agrees with that now in use in Sweden; and both nations have sprung from the same Gothic lineage.

As there is scarcely any country in the whole world, the past or present state of which is less generally understood by the British nation, than the kingdom of Hanover; the Editor intends inserting a concise, yet comprehensive illustration of its history, inhabitants, laws, manners, boundaries, and soil; so that his reader, before he commences the personal Memoir of our late King, shall have been furnished with a complete and concise abstract of many important and interesting particulars relative to Hanover, the due understanding of which, is really essential as a precursor to the Life and Reign of His late venerable Majesty.

From the best authorities, both foreign and domestic, the Editor will glean the intermediate matter; forming a most important part of the Work, illustrative of the Lives of his late Majesty's Predecessors on the Throne, and of the British Court, and the ages in which they respectively lived.

Of this great division of the work, the secret history of the Princess Sophia Dorothea, of Zell, consort of George I. will form the most prominent feature; and the Editor has in his possession much scarce and curious matter, that will tend to throw new lights on the history of that unhappy Lady, and those atrocious court intrigues, of which she was so cruelly made the victim.

The first Volume of "The Northern Courts," published by the Editor, has presented more real facts developing the character and conduct of the great-grand-daughter of that ill-fated Princess, the youngest Sister of His late Majesty, than had ever before been laid before the British public; the accuracy of which no critic has ventured to assail, although so much pains have been taken to suppress

that work. A new Memoir of the Life of Queen Matilda will be appended to the present, containing new facts and much additional matter.

The third Royal Lady, whose Memoir will be given, containing a more clear and dispassionate examination of the extraordinary and lamentable circumstances of her eventful life, is that of the reigning QUEEN, which, accompanied by some new facts, will enrich this publication; but it will be the study of the Editor to avoid every thing approaching to rudeness towards any of Her Majesty's relatives or connections. Too much of the unhappiness of Sovereigns in their private life, results less from their personal frailties, than the officious and mischievous interference of treacherous and mercenary subalterns.

By selecting the most valuable of the materials contained in the Memoirs which have been published of the late Queen, and the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the Editor hopes he shall be able to give a cast of novelty and originality to topics, which admit of little or no additional illustration.

A succinct Memoir of the late highly-beloved and popular character, the Duke of Kent, will also be presented in this work, the pages of which will be found to contain a faithful portraiture of a Prince, more respected for his private virtues than his exalted rank, and whose memory will long continue to be cherished by posterity, with grateful recollection.

Avoiding the feelings and language of a partisan, the Editor intends to steer as clear of political discussion as is compatible with the due performance of the work; but where he ought to be explicit, he will be found perfectly constitutional in his principles, and respectful in his language; adopting a middle course between the *ultra* Ministerialist, who pretends that the people of Great Britain "have nothing to do with the laws, but to *obey* them;"

and the fanatical Radical, who seems impudently to assert, that all the *Sovereign People* have to do with legal enactments, is to *make* them.

By acting on the *condensing* principle, the Editor conceives, that, without omitting any article proper to be given in this publication, he shall embrace every thing essential, including sketches of the Bar, the Pulpit, the British Drama, Poets, Authors, Artists, and Men of Science; in short, his Memoir will furnish a glance of all the memorabilia of the different periods included in the Memoirs of George the First and Second, and more especially of George the Third, presenting to the reader during the whole of the late glorious and ever-memorable reign—

“The age and body of the time,
“Its form and pressure.”

CHAPTER I.

Introductory Remarks.—House of Brunswick connected with the Gothic history.—Turner's history of the Anglo-Saxons examined.—Goths asserted to be the ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons, from whom the House of Brunswick has descended.—Early adventures, irruptions, and barbarous customs of the Goths.—Extent of ancient Germany.—A ship's anchor found imbedded in a rock of granite.—Ancient Gothic temple.—Hideous images.—Human sacrifices.—Historical character of Odin.—Progress and conquests of the Gothic tribes.—Defeat the Romans.—Death of Decius.—Naval expedition of the Goths.—Vicissitudes of war, &c. &c. &c.

TO commence a Memoir, historically descriptive of the House of Brunswick, that shall delineate the character of our late revered and now lamented Sovereign, GEORGE III. and that shall describe the polished and magnificent age in which he lived and reigned, with an essay on the origin and fortunes of the ancient German tribes, and of the Scandinavian Goths, has certainly the appearance of an ungraceful anomaly. This might, with justice, be censured as ridiculous, were it not that those old Teutones, and Goths of Scandinavia, were the undoubted ancestors of the Anglo-Saxon race, and that the forefathers of the reigning dynasty of Great Britain, have sprung from the same people and the same soil as the Anglo-Saxons.

But notwithstanding these facts, this sketch might still be rejected as superfluous, if the generality of English readers were well instructed in

the early history of their country; and if, in this essay, the Editor had not something new to introduce, strongly illustrative of those interesting national topics. But when it is known, that the Family on the Throne, and those venerable and popular institutions, the conservation of which led to the elevation of the House of Brunswick; together with our language, freedom, laws, and customs; are severally deducible from the Gothic tribes;—when it is perceived, that all that is dear to every lover of liberty and of good government, and that the principles which have hitherto preserved this favoured island from that lurid despotism, under which so many continental kingdoms have remained overwhelmed for ages, can be traced to the same source;—the intelligent reader will know how to appreciate the importance of this historical elucidation. To the lover of remote history it will furnish the most agreeable part; and, on the present occasion, it is essentially necessary to the due comprehension and relish of the Hanoverian memoirs.

It cannot be denied, notwithstanding that flood of intellectual light which has inundated this nation during the auspicious but eventful reign of our late revered, but now lamented Sovereign, that those branches of British history which relate to our Saxon progenitors, are comparatively but little known. Many causes might be assigned why the inhabitants of this country, who are the immediate descendants of the Anglo-Saxons, are less acquainted with the early history of their Gothic ancestors, than the tribes or nations on the continent. To produce this effect, two causes, however, have principally conspired. The first may be found in the ravages committed by the hordes of Scandinavian pirates and warriors; and the second, in that injurious care which has been taken to preserve our most ancient and curious records,

securely locked up, a prey for worms, almost untouched by human hands, and unseen by human eyes.

There can be little doubt, that in the King's library at Buckingham-house, there are some precious stores of ancient memorials, that have been buried for ages, which contain the gleanings of history respecting our monastic institutions. It is also well known, that the treasures which load the shelves of the Bodleian Library at Oxford, are not only shut against all miscellaneous visitors, whether foreigners or natives, but also against the students themselves, till after they have attained the academical degree of Master of Arts. This rigid tenacity is not more injurious to the pursuits of literature at home, than it is dishonourable to our own universities, in the estimation of foreigners. Should His present Majesty, who has just ascended the throne, and who is at once distinguished for his literary acquirements, and peculiar elegance of manners, correct this narrow policy, by throwing open for limited inspection, under proper regulations, those numerous documents which have been so long concealed, a new æra would be formed in the history of literature, which, recording the munificence of the Monarch, would associate his name with its own acquirements, and transmit the event to generations yet unborn.

The learning, traditions, laws, language, customs, and local memorials of the Netherlands,—of the intermediate provinces thence to the Sound,—of Norway, Denmark, and, more particularly, of southern Sweden, have fully impressed the Editor with the belief, that the Gothic Scandinavians were almost, or completely, the immediate predecessors of the first Saxons who made good a lodgment in this island. It would be irrational to suppose that the immense population, which, pouring forth from the Northern wilds, glutted the waste

of war on the plains of Britain, paid tribute to raging seas, and fed the ravages of pestilence and famine, (the sad though sure results of wars of extermination,) all emanated from Sleswick, Holstein, and Delmarch;—they certainly were a mixed race, but so great a proportion were Gothic, that the whole mass might, without impropriety, be termed Scandinavians.

Under the head of *the Origin of the Saxons*, (vol. 1. p. 27.) Mr. Turner asserts, ‘The Anglo-Saxons were the people who transported themselves from the *Cimbric Peninsula*,* in the fifth and sixth centuries, into England;’ a definition, which, from its palpable anachronism, might be construed as an intentional omission of the Scandinavian name; and more especially so, when it is considered that a few pages further on (p. 27.) Mr. Turner mystifies the subject by the following dark and obscure *illustration*, i. e. ‘The Saxons were a *German*, that is, a *Gothic* or *Scythian*, tribe.’

In this curious passage, instead of affiliating his Anglo-Saxons on their natural ancestors, the Scandinavian Goths, the historian takes an alarming flight far into the wildernesses of the Scythians, (whose cities moved on wheels, and whose *ubi* was in any region, where sweet water and abundant pasturage for their herds could be found,) to seek the cradle of the warlike Saxons.

This erratic, and apparently fanciful excursion, is the more objectionable, because the narrow tract to which he confines the ‘*Fatherland*’ (to adopt an ENGLISH phrase for *country*) of the Anglo-Saxons, forms a part of Jutland, pronounced by the Swedes,

* The Cimbric Peninsula was formed by the Elbe river, Kiel, to the Belts; of course it included Jutland, Holstein, the Danish Islands, Norway, Sweden, and Lapland, perhaps Finland. The Scandinavian Peninsula included Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, together with Lapland. *Scania*, pronounced Skoonen by the natives, is the only province that has the word *Scan* as a prefix.

Yoot-land, i. e. the land of the Goths. The Danes spell Jutland, *Jylland*, and pronounce it Yoo-land. How Mr. Turner came to overlook these indelible traces of a Gothic origin, it is difficult to conceive, unless it were ascertained that he has no practical knowledge of the Northern dialects, and their mode of pronunciation.

The Scotch yet retain much stronger traces of their Scandinavian origin, than the southern inhabitants; and the sameness of language may be sufficiently traced in the following familiar specimen.

Danish—"Wil du go spör efter ham?"

Scotch—"Wilt thou go and spear after him?"

Every word in both these lines have sprung from the Teutonic or Gothic root, the trunk of the English and Danish languages; and whole sheets might be selected, where the analogy is equally strong and apparent.

The learned author, (p. 34.) continuing his efforts to prove the Scythian origin of the Anglo-Saxons, proceeds thus:—"Of the various Scythian nations, which have been recorded, the Sakai, or Sacæ, *are the people* from whom the descent of the Saxons may be inferred with the least violation of probability. Sakai-suna, or the sons of the Sakai, abbreviated into *Sak-sun*, which is the same sound as Saxon, seems a reasonable etymology of the word Saxon. The Sakai, who, in Latin are called Sacæ, were an important branch of the Scythian nation. They were so celebrated, that the Persians called all the Scythians by their name; and Pliny, who mentions them, remarks them among the most distinguished people of Scythia. Strabo places them eastward of the Caspian Sea, and states them to have made many incursions on the Kimmerians and Treres, both far and near. They seized Bactriana, and the most fertile part of Armenia, which, from them, derived the name Sacasena; and they recalled the Cappadoces on the Euxine."

To deny the accuracy of Mr. Turner's statements respecting a celebrated Scythian nation called the Sakai, would be as erroneous as it was adventurous in him to select that potent race as the ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons, and really omitting the Goths of Scandinavia, who, by possibility, may indeed have descended from that source. Mr. Gibbon, however, in the map prefixed to Vol. I. of his "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," instead of attempting to fix any limit to the territory of any particular Scythian tribe, has inserted the following advertisement, viz. '*The situation, names, &c. of the Scythian tribes, are so CHANGEABLE and UNCERTAIN, that it has been thought more useful to express the modern appellations of the countries beyond the farthest limits of the Roman Empire.*'

This conclusive evidence of the superior probability, that the Scandinavian Goths were the immediate ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons, and *not* the Sakai, or any other *Scythian* tribe, ought, in the Editor's opinion, to induce Mr. Turner to abandon that bare supposition, which must not be permitted to pass from an historian of his credit; for the greater the authority is by which errors are sanctioned, the more difficult is the task to overthrow and get rid of them.

Still, it is not the intention of the Editor to treat Mr. Turner's authority with contempt: the former has read in the original tongues, Holberg's History of Denmark; Sukin on the Tribes who emigrated from the North of Europe; Lagebring's Svea; Rike's Historia, del. I. p. to 120, &c. without any recollection remaining of either of those eminent Northern writers having expressed a similar opinion with Mr. Turner; neither has Dahlberg in his '*Suæcia Antiqua et Hodierna*,' consequently Mr. Turner's nomination of the Sakai-suna as the immediate ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons, without the intervention of the Svea-Goths, is not entitled to im-

plicit credit. That respectable author is much more at home, in tracing and explaining the local laws, customs, &c. of the Anglo-Saxons *after* their arrival in Britain.

In limiting the territories of that great nation to the narrow bounds of a part of Sleswick, Delmarch, Holstein, and Stormaria, that author compromised his accuracy or his judgment; for a tract so small was not capable of affording space for a people powerful enough to have been of any avail in protecting the distressed Britons against their fierce and numerous invaders.

The omission of any scale to the map prefixed to the first volume of Mr. Turner's history, renders it necessary to quote his description of those petty districts.

"The three islands, (says he, p. 39, 40, 41, 42,) which the Saxons in the days of Ptolemy inhabited, were those we now denominate North-Strandt, Buxen, and Heligoland," the whole of which, never within the reach of record, possessed a population equal to that of the Isle of Man.

(P. 44.) 'The territory which the *original* Saxons occupied on the continent, was situated on the Cimbric peninsula, between the (river) Elbe and the Eyder." (*)

"Detmarsia, extends in length thirty-seven miles, and in breadth twenty-three."

"Below Detmarsia, and reaching to the Elbe was Stormaria. (†) Stormaria is quadrangular, and its sides may be estimated at thirty-three miles."

* A fanciful etymologist might imagine that "Nord-albinga," the name given, as well as that of "Eald Saexan," to this district, meant *North Albion*; but the true interpretation, would perhaps be, *North Elbingland* for the district, and North Elbingers for the inhabitants. *Eald* Saxon may signify Old Saxons—but Eld, sometimes spelt Eald, in the Svea-Gothic meant *fire*; the one is pretty obvious, the latter uncertain.

(†) Great Maria.

“Divided from Sleswick by the Levesen on the North, bounded by Wagred on the East, and by the Trave on the South (Holsatia) Holstein, stretches its numerous woods to Detmaria.”

Mr. Gibbon, treating of the origin of the Anglo-Saxons, thus elegantly expresses himself.

“The head-land was covered by the fortifications of Valentinian, but the sea-coasts of Gaul and Britain were exposed to the depredations of the Saxons.

“That celebrated name, in which we have a dear domestic interest, escaped the notice of Tacitus; and in the maps of Ptolemy, it forcibly marks the narrow neck of the Cimbric peninsula, and three small islands towards the mouth of the Elbe. This contracted territory, the present duchy of Sleswick, or perhaps of Holstein, was incapable of pouring forth the inexhaustible swarms of Saxons who reigned over the ocean, who filled the British Island with their language, their laws, and their colonies, and who so long defended the liberty of the North against the arms of Charlemagne.

“The solution of this difficulty is easily derived from the similar manners and loose constitution of the tribes of Germany, which were blended with each other by the slightest accidents of war or friendship. The situation of the native Saxons disposed them to embrace the hazardous professions of fishermen and pirates; and the success of their first adventure would naturally excite the emulation of their bravest countrymen, who were impatient of the gloomy solitude of their woods and mountains. Every tide might float down the Elbe whole fleets of canoes, filled with hardy and intrepid associates, who aspired to behold that unbounded prospect of the ocean, and to taste the wealth and luxury of unknown worlds. It should seem probable, however, that the most numerous auxiliaries of the Saxons were furnished by the nations who dwelt

along the shores of the Baltic. They possessed arms and ships, the art of navigation, and the habits of naval war; but the difficulty of issuing through the Northern columns of Hercules, which, during several months of the year, are obstructed with ice,* confined their skill and courage within the limits of a spacious lake.

“The rumour of the successful armaments which sailed from the mouth of the Elbe, would soon provoke them to cross the narrow isthmus of Sleswick, and to launch their vessels on the great sea. The various troops of pirates and adventurers, who fought under the same standard, were insensibly united in a permanent society, at first of rapine, and afterwards of government. A military confederation was gradually moulded into a national body, by the gentle operation of marriage and consanguinity; and the adjacent tribes who solicited the alliance, accepted the name and the laws of the Saxons. If the fact was not established by unquestionable evidence, we should appear to abuse the credulity of our readers by the description of the vessels in which the Saxon pirates ventured to sport on the waves of the German Ocean, the British Channel, the Bay of Biscay, &c. The keel of their large flat-bottomed boats was framed of light timber, but the sides and upper works consisted only of wicker, with a covering of strong hides. In the course of their slow and distant navigation, they must always have been exposed to the danger, and very frequently to the misfortune, of shipwreck; and the naval annals of the Saxons were undoubtedly filled with the accounts

* The fleet of Drusus had failed in their attempts to pass, or even to approach, the *Sound*; (styled, from an obvious resemblance, the Columns of Hercules,) and the actual enterprise was never executed. Tacit. de Moribus Germaniæ. c. 34. The knowledge which the Romans acquired of the naval powers of the Baltic, c. 44, 45. was obtained by their hand.

of the losses they sustained on the coasts of Britain and Gaul. But the daring spirit of the pirate braved the perils both of the sea and the shore: their skill was confirmed by their habits of enterprise; the meanest of their mariners was alike capable of handling an oar, of hoisting a sail, or of conducting a vessel; and the Saxons rejoiced on the appearance of a tempest, which concealed their design, and dispersed the fleets of the enemy. After they had acquired a competent knowledge of the maritime provinces of the West, they extended the scene of their depredations; and the most sequestered places had no reason to presume on their security. The Saxon boats drew so little water, that they could easily proceed fourscore or a hundred miles up the great rivers; their weight was so inconsiderable, that they were transported on waggons from one river to another; and the pirates who had entered the mouth of the Seine, or of the Rhine, might descend with the rapid stream of the Rhone into the Mediterranean.

“Under the reign of Valentinian, (A. D. 371,) the maritime provinces of Gaul were afflicted by the Barbarians. The invaders were too powerful for the Gauls; but by the Roman forces they were surrounded, out-numbered, and were forced to yield a select band of their tall and robust youth to serve in the imperial armies. They stipulated only a safe and honourable retreat, and the condition was readily granted by the Roman general, who meditated an act of perfidy, as imprudent as it was inhuman, while a Saxon remained alive and in arms to revenge the fate of his countrymen. The premature eagerness of the infantry, who were secretly posted in a deep valley, betrayed the ambuscade; and they would probably have fallen the victims of their own treachery, if a large body of cuirassiers, alarmed by the noise of the combat, had not hastily advanced to extricate their com-

panions, and to overwhelm the undaunted valour of the Saxons. Some of the prisoners were saved from the sword, to shed their blood (as gladiators) in the amphitheatre; and the orator Symmachus complains, that twenty-nine of those desperate savages, by strangling themselves with their own hands, had disappointed the amusement of the public. Yet the polite and philosophic citizens of Rome were impressed with the deepest horror, when they were informed that the Saxons consecrated to the gods the tithe of their *human* spoil, and that they ascertained by lot the objects of the barbarous sacrifice."—See Vol. I. p. 286.

Such is the clear, rational, and distinct account of the *origin* of our Saxon forefathers, given by Mr. Gibbon.

Of the calamities which accompanied the irruptions of the barbarous nations, it would be attended with no difficulty to furnish a deeply interesting account. In the pages of Gibbon and Robertson, the desolations which marked their progress are exhibited in all the splendour of diction; and the energies of our language seem to be exhausted in describing the devastations occasioned by rapine, conflagration, and the sword. But into a detail of these distant transactions, the biography of His late Majesty will only require us partially to enter, in reference to his remote ancestors.

The combination, under one head, and the compressing into a small space, the most interesting historical features of the immediate forefathers of the Anglo-Saxons, in whose armies and councils the warlike chiefs of the Brunswick Family held a distinguished rank, will present an historical drama, more romantic than the obsolete tales of Brutus and his Trojans, and founded, not upon monkish fables, but on recorded facts.

"Ancient Germany, (says Gibbon, vol. I. p. 346,) excluding from its independent limits the pro-

vinces westward of the Rhine, which had submitted to the Roman yoke, extended itself over a third part of Europe. Almost the whole of modern Germany, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Livonia, Prussia, and the greater part of Poland, were peopled by the tribes of one great nation, whose complexion, manners, and language, denoted a common origin, and preserved a striking resemblance. On the west, ancient Germany was divided by the Rhine from the Gallic, and on the south, by the Danube, from the Illyrian provinces of the Roman empire. A ridge of hills, rising from the Danube, and called the Carpathian mountains, covered Germany on the side of Dacia or Hungary. The eastern frontier was faintly marked by the mutual fears of the Germans and the Sarmatians, and was often confounded by the mixture of warring and confederating tribes of the two nations. In the remote darkness of the North, the ancients imperfectly described a frozen ocean, that lay beyond the Peninsula, or Islands of Scandinavia.*

* The modern philosophers of Sweden seem agreed that the waters of the Baltic gradually sink in a regular proportion, which they have ventured to estimate at half an inch every year. Twenty centuries ago the flat country of Scandinavia must have been covered by the sea; while the high lands rose above the waters, as so many islands of various forms and dimensions. Such, indeed, is the notion given us by Mela, Pliny, and Tacitus, of the vast countries round the Baltic.—*Gibbon, Vol. I. note to p. 346.*

The Editor has had ocular demonstration, in the composition, and rounded angles, of the most noted hills of West Gothland, that such was once the face of Sweden, or rather, of the space it occupies. That singular mountain, Kinnekulla, affords a very strong corroboration of this theory; Hurneburg and Hallemburg, which will be mentioned again farther on, still more so: but the strongest demonstration that the sea was formerly lord of the ascendant, exists in the massive rings of iron, or rather their remains, found by Mr. Dundas, (who was ennobled by Gustavus IV. 1808,) near his residence at Ekolsund, an old Royal Palace, many fathoms above the present level of the Mälar Lake.

This outline of ancient Germany, proves that Mr. Gibbon included within its spacious limits the SCANDINAVIAN peninsula: and the most intimate connection which subsisted between the Gothic and the German languages, the similarity of ancient laws and religion, leaves no doubt of the accuracy of his definition.

“The Emperor Decius,” continues the same author, “had employed a few months in the works of peace and the administration of justice, when he was summoned to the banks of the Danube, by the invasion of the GOTHs. This is the first considerable occasion in which history mentions that great people, who afterwards broke the Roman power, sacked the Capitol, and reigned in Gaul, Spain, and Italy. So memorable is the part they acted in the subversion of the Western Empire, that the name of GOTHs is frequently, but improperly used, as a general appellation of rude and warlike barbarism.

“In the beginning of the sixth century, and after the conquest of Italy, the Goths, in possession of present greatness, very naturally indulged themselves in the contemplation of past, and the prospect of future glory. They wished to preserve the memory of their ancestors, and to transmit to pos-

And at Trolhätte, in excavating that celebrated canal, in a mass of gneiss granite, a ship's anchor was found deeply imbedded in the native rock, on the spot called Ackers Sjö. The Editor was assured of this fact by Mr. George Stevens, the agriculturist, who said he had seen it. It was deposited in a warehouse belonging to the Canal Company. Mr. S. said it was nearly in the present fashion of anchors, and almost decomposed. The spot where it was found is 72 feet above the Alf river (the *Gotha river*, of the *Quarterly Review*,) and not much less than two hundred feet higher than the waters in the Baltic. In short, the shores of that river afford evidence of that fact; and speaking of its meadows, Sir Charles Linné, in his Western Gothland Tour, asserted that the old Goths sailed and fished where cows and sheep were then grazing.

terity their own achievements. The principal minister of the court of Ravenna, (the royal seat of the Gothic power in Italy,) the learned Cassiodorus, gratified the inclination of the conquerors in a Gothic history, now reduced to the imperfect abridgment of Jornandes.

“ On the faith of ancient songs, the uncertain, but the only memorials of barbarians, these writers deduced the first origin of the Goths, from the vast island, or peninsula, of Scandinavia. That extreme country of the North was not unknown to the conquerors of Italy: the ties of ancient consanguinity had been strengthened by recent offices of friendship, and a Scandinavian king had cheerfully abdicated his savage greatness, that he might pass the remainder of his days in the peaceful and polished court of Ravenna. Many vestiges which cannot be attributed to the arts of popular vanity, attest the ancient residence of the Goths in the countries beyond the Baltic. From the time of the geographer Ptolemy, the southern part of Sweden seems to have continued in the possession of the less enterprising remnant of the nation; and a large territory is, even at the present day, divided into East and West Gothland.

“ During the middle ages, (from the ninth to the twelfth century,) whilst Christianity was advancing with a slow progress into the North, the Goths and the Swedes composed two distinct and sometimes hostile members of the same monarchy. The latter of these two names have prevailed, without extinguishing the former. The Swedes, who might well be satisfied with their own fame in arms, have in every age claimed the kindred glory of the Goths. In a memorial of discontent against the court of Rome, Charles the Twelfth insinuated that his victorious troops were not degenerated from their brave ancestors, who had already subdued the mistress of the world.

“Till the end of the eleventh century, a celebrated temple subsisted at Upsala, the most considerable town of the Swedes and Goths. It was enriched with the gold which the Scandivanians had acquired in their piratical adventures, and sanctified by the uncouth representations of the three principal deities; the God of War, the Goddess of Generation, and the God of Thunder. These exhibit the human countenance in barbarous distortion. In the general festival, that was solemnized every ninth year, nine animals of every species, not excepting the human, were sacrificed, and their bleeding limbs exposed in the sacred grove adjacent to the temple. The only traces that now subsist of this barbaric superstition, are contained in the Edda, a system of mythology compiled in Iceland about the thirteenth century, and studied by the learned of Denmark and Sweden, as the most valuable remains of their ancient traditions.

“Notwithstanding the mysterious obscurity of the Edda, we can easily distinguish two persons confounded under the name of Odin; the God of War, and the great Legislator of Scandinavia: the latter, the Mahomet of the North, instituted a religion adapted to the climate and to the people. Numerous tribes on either side of the Baltic were subdued by the invincible valour of Odin, by his persuasive eloquence, and by the fame which he had acquired of a most skilful magician. The faith that he had propagated during a long and prosperous life, he confirmed by a voluntary death. Apprehensive of the ignominious approach of disease and infirmity, he resolved to expire as became a warrior. In a solemn assembly of the Swedes, he wounded himself in nine mortal places, hastening away (as he asserted with his dying voice) to prepare the feast of heroes in the palace of the God of War.”

It is supposed that Odin was the chief of a tribe

of barbarians, which dwelt on the banks of the Mæotis, till the fall of Mithridates, and the arms of Pompey, menaced the North with servitude : that Odin, yielding with indignant fury to a power which he was unable to resist, conducted his tribe from the frontier of the Asiatic Sarmatia, into Sweden, with the great design of forming, in that inaccessible retreat of freedom, a religion and a people, which, in some remote age, might be subservient to his immortal revenge ; when his invincible Goths, armed with martial fanaticism, should issue in numerous swarms from the neighbourhood of the polar circle, to chastise the oppressors of mankind.

The Goths who inhabited Sweden, had a number of large vessels with oars ; and, though unlettered barbarians, they were sufficiently acquainted with navigation to conduct them across the Baltic, which, from Carlscoon to the nearest port of Pomerania and Prussia, is little more than a hundred miles.

Here, at length, we land on firm and historic ground. At least as early as the Christian æra, and as late as the age of the Antonines, the Goths were established towards the mouth of the Vistula, and in that fertile province where the commercial cities, Thorn, Elbing, Königsberg, and Dantzic, were long afterwards founded, westward of the Goths. The numerous tribes of the Vandals, or roving nations, were spread along the banks of the Oder, and the sea-coasts of Pomerania and Mecklenburg. A striking resemblance of manners, complexion, religion, and languages, seemed to indicate that the Vandals and the Goths were originally one great people. The latter appear to have been subdivided into Ostro-Goths, Visi-Goths, and Gepidæ.* The distinction among the Vandals was more strongly marked by

* The Loiterers.—Jornandes, c. 17. states, “ The Ostro and Visi Goths obtained those denominations from their original seats in

the independent names, Heruli, Burgundians, Lombards, and a variety of other petty states, many of which, in a future age, expanded themselves into powerful monarchies.

In the age of the Antonines, the Goths were still seated in Prussia. About the reign of Alexander Severus, the Roman province of Dacia had already experienced their proximity by frequent and destructive inroads. In this interval, therefore, of about seventy years, we must place the second migration from the Baltic to the Euxine; but the causes that produced it, lie concealed among the various motives which actuate the conduct of unsettled barbarians. Either a pestilence or a famine, a victory or a defeat, was sufficient to impel the Gothic arms on the milder climates of the South. Besides the influence of a martial religion, the numbers and spirit of the Goths were equal to the most dangerous adventures. The use of round bucklers, and short swords, rendered them formidable in a close engagement: the manly obedience which they yielded to hereditary kings, gave uncommon union and stability to their councils: and the renowned Amala, the hero of that age, and the tenth ancestor of Theodoric King of Italy, enforced, by the ascendancy of personal merit, the prerogative of his birth, which he derived from the Anses, or demi-gods, of the Gothic nation.—

Such are the outlines of the history, given by Gibbon, of the origin and progress of the Scandinavian Goths; from whom there is yet the clearest possible evidence to prove the Anglo-Saxons descended; and of whose chequered fortunes, the remote

Scandinavia. In all their future marches and settlements, they preserved, with their names, the same relative situation. When first they departed from Sweden, the infant colony was contained in three vessels. The third being a heavy sailer, lagged behind; and the crew, which afterwards swelled into a nation, received from that circumstance, the appellation of Gepidæ, or Loiterers."

ancestors of the house of Brunswick most probably deeply partook.

“Tracing their course towards Asia, whence, in Sweden, they are yet believed to have originally issued, the Goths obtained possession of the Ukraine, a country abounding in game and fish, honey, cattle, and luxuriance of vegetation: but the Goths withstood all these temptations, and still adhered to a life of idleness, of poverty, and of rapine.

“Avoiding the Scythian hordes, which presented the prospect of a hard contest, a dubious result, and at best a barren victory, the Goths cast their eyes on the golden harvests of the Dacian plains. This great province of the Roman Empire they traversed; and barbarian warriors reaped what the peaceful natives had sown. They found not, however, in the spoil of Dacia, any thing able to satiate their rapacity; but in their terrible progress they left behind them the Niester and the Danube. They appeared under the walls of Marcianopolis. This city was saved by payment of a ransom. The king of the Goths, Cniva, passed the Danube a second time. Decius found them encamped before Nicopolis, whence, at his approach, they hastened to a greater conquest, the city of Philippopolis, a city of Thrace, founded by the father of Alexander, near the foot of mount Hæmus. Decius pursued them: Cniva turned with rapid fury on the Romans, surprised and pillaged their camp; and, for the first time, their Emperor fled before a troop of half-armed barbarians. Philippopolis was taken by storm: a hundred thousand persons are said to have perished in the sack of that great city. Decius was, however, allowed time to revive the courage and restore the discipline of his troops. By skilful military tactics, the Roman Emperor cut off the supplies, and cramped the Gothic army, which had lost the flower of its strength in the

long siege of Philippopolis; they were pursued by the Romans, surrounded, and reduced to the utmost distress: they would willingly have surrendered all their booty, and all their captives; but the Emperor, too confident in his power, refused to listen to any terms of accommodation. The high-spirited barbarians preferred death to slavery. An obscure town of Mæsia, called Forum Terebrenio, was the scene of the battle. The Gothic army was drawn up in three lines, and, either from choice or accident, the front of the third line was covered by a morass. In the beginning of the action, a son of Decius, a youth of the fairest hopes, and already associated to the honours of the purple, was slain by an arrow, in the sight of his afflicted father, who, summoning all his fortitude, admonished the dismayed troops, that the loss of a single soldier was of little importance to the republic. The conflict was terrible; it was the combat of despair against grief and rage. The first line of the Goths gave way in disorder; the second advancing to sustain it, shared the same fate; and the third only remained entire, prepared to dispute the passage of the morass, which was imprudently attempted by the presumption of the enemy. *Here the fortune of the day turned, and all things became adverse to the Romans: the place, deep with ooze,—sinking under those who stood,—slippery to those who advanced,—their armour heavy, the waters deep; nor could they wield, in that uneasy situation, their weighty javelins. The barbarians, on the contrary, were inured to encounters in the bogs; their persons tall, their spears long, such as could wound at a distance.* In this morass the Roman army, after an ineffectual struggle, was irrecoverably lost; nor could the body of the Emperor ever be found."

The fleet of the Goths, leaving the coasts of Circassia on the left hand, first appeared before

Pityeus, the utmost limits of the Roman name. They were repulsed, circling round the eastern extremity of the Euxine Sea, the navigation from Pityeus to Trebizond. The city was large and populous: the numerous garrison, dissolved in riot and luxury, disdained to guard their impregnable fortifications. The Goths ascended the walls in the silence of the night, and entered the defenceless city sword in hand. A general massacre of the people ensued. The most holy temples, and the most splendid buildings, were involved in one common ruin. The booty that fell into the hands of the Goths was immense; the number of captives incredible.

The second expedition of the Goths was undertaken with greater powers of men and ships; they approached the narrow outlet through which the Euxine Sea pours its waters into the Mediterranean: they attacked and captured Nicodemia; Nice, Prusa, Apæmæ, and Cius, were involved in the same calamity.

In their third naval expedition, the Goths steered their destructive course from the Cimmerian to the Thracian Bosphorus. At length the Gothic fleet anchored in the port of *Piræus*, five miles distant from Athens; and the barbarians became masters of the seat of the muses and the arts—whence they were expelled by Dexippus. They had now advanced within sight of Italy, when the approach of such imminent danger awakened the indolent Gallienus from his dream of pleasure: the Goths were forced to retreat; and measuring back their way through the Bosphorus and the Hellespont, ravaged in their passage the islands of Troy.

Such is the rapid but striking outline of the naval campaigns of those conquering Goths, the common ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons, and of the nation descended from them which now claims the sovereignty of the seas.

CHAPTER II.

Origin of the Guelphs.—Fabulous and genuine History of the House of Brunswick.—Union of the Families in the days of Azo.—Origin of the title of ESTE.—Genealogical descent.—Anecdote of some captured Ladies.—Vicissitudes of the Brunswick Family.—Prince Ernest supports Protestantism.—Fluctuation of the hereditary dominions.—Right of Primogeniture established.—George-William Duke of Zell.—Accession and events connected with George I. & George II.—Immediate ancestors of His late Majesty George III.

THE barbarous nations of the North, among whom the Goths were particularly conspicuous, after having conquered Imperial Rome, clothed themselves in her mantle of military glory, and assumed the dominion over those vast territories, of which they had deprived the Empress of the World.

Among the tribes of warlike adventurers, which this great event exhibited upon the theatre of Europe, a family, or faction, appeared, which, in process of time, kept Germany and Italy in a state of agitation during three centuries. *Guelph*, the name of this family, has been derived by some

In page 10th of this work, we stated our intention of prefixing to the Life of His late Majesty, “A concise yet comprehensive illustration of the History, inhabitants, laws, manners, boundaries, &c. of Hanover:” also, “The secret History of the Princess Sophia Dorothea, of Zell;” together with “A new Memoir of the Life of Queen Matilda, &c.”

Since publishing the preceding, we have found it necessary to defer those scarce and curious facts, collected from unpublished northern manuscripts, and those nearly unknown chronicles which teem with various important and most interesting matter, intimately connected with the reigning dynasty, their Saxon ancestry, and the English nation, until the Memoirs of George III. shall be completed.

from *Welfe*; others have discovered its origin in the German *Wolff*, or *Guelfe*; while others have discerned the roots of their etymology striking deeply into the Gothic history. Opinions thus diversified only assure us, that the origin of the mere name is lost in dubious obscurity.

The period in which they began to be conspicuous in arms and power, is lodged in equal uncertainty. By some we are referred to the time of Conrad III. in the twelfth century, and by others to Frederick his successor in the thirteenth.

The House of Brunswick, prior to its union with the Guelphs, is also buried in deep obscurity, now rendered almost impenetrable by the atmosphere of fable, with which the early periods of its history are associated. By Theodore Damaidenus, a Belgic Abbot, the name of Azo or Atto, which was familiar in this ancient Family, has been adduced, as a corruption from *Atticus*, *Accius* or *Actius*; and these names have been considered as decisive proofs that this Family is of Roman origin. When, in 1685, Ernest Augustus, then Duke, and afterwards Elector of Hanover, was on a visit to Venice, the same Abbot presented to him his manuscript, intitled *Augusta Decora Romano Brunsvicensia*. This was received by the Duke with smiles of approbation, and lodged among the archives of glory which decorated his family name.

This manuscript, which is a splendid folio, displays in all the magnificence of embellishment, medals, inscriptions, and classical authorities, to support credulity, which the author teaches to travel through the long, long period of 2436 years.

According to this literary romance, the first of the Duke's ancestors (for he allows them to have had a beginning) was a companion of Romulus, whose name was *Actius Novus*, and whose services were rewarded by a statue erected to his honour by the founder of the city. The great-grandson of

Novus, who was a famous augur, divided a stone with a razor in the presence of the elder Tarquin, and performed prodigies, which nothing but impudence could invent, or credulity believe. To preserve the honours of this name with undiminished brightness, the *Attii*, or *Actii*, are introduced as senators, and as continuing to serve in the wars of the Republic. In the age of the Antonines, migrating from Rome to *Ateste*, their wealth and merit are said to have procured for them the honours of the colony; and to add new lustre to their glory, about the four hundredth year of the Christian æra, Caius Actius, who was the thirty-third in lineal descent from Novus, was exalted by his countrymen to be their protector and prince.

But it was not in every department that fortune was equally favourable to the House of Brunswick. Caius Actius, in defending Italy against the Goths, acquired renown that corresponded with his valour; and his grandson, the illustrious Foresto, augmented the family glory, by opposing Attila and the Huns. At length, marching with a chosen band from *Ateste*, or *Este*, a town of Italy, in the Padua, to relieve Aquileia, after cutting his way through the barbaric host, he was mortally wounded by a Scythian arrow. On his death, Aquileia fell; and the fugitives of Este, under his son Aca-rius, withdrew, and founded a new city in the morasses of Ferrara, in the Italian territories, the capital of the exarchate of the lower Po.

That a considerable portion of this narrative is founded in fiction, the evidence of every sentence forbids us to doubt; but that every name is the creature of fancy, that every feature is artificial, and that every association is the offspring of imagination, we have no right to assert. The ancestors of the Brunswick Family, like those of every other, must have been coeval with the human race, and the only question of difficulty lies in tracing the

distant branches through the remote ages of antiquity.

Emerging from these dark and fabulous regions, it is not until the days of Azo II. that we begin to tread the solid ground of well-attested history. Azo I. is said to have descended from Caius Actius, who was nearly related to the Emperor Augustus. Azo II. who was Marquis of Tuscany, and proprietor of the Milanese, was a powerful prince in Lombardy, during the eleventh century. He lived to the advanced age of 101 or 110 years, and is the most remote ancestor of the Brunswick Family, of whom any thing is known with undubitable certainty. About the year 1040, this Azo married Cunigunda, or Cuniza, heiress of the Guelphs or Whelphs, who at this time were Earls of Altorf in Suabia. Their son Guelph II. of Este, obtained in 1071, from Henry IV. the Duchy of Bavaria, and since the union of the families he has been the acknowledged head of the Guelph name, which was so considerable in the German Empire. Of this family, a distinguished branch held a considerable dominion in Burgundy. Guelph IV. married Ethelina, daughter of Otho King of Bavaria, who, incurring the displeasure of Henry IV. was proscribed, and deprived of his title, which was also conferred upon Guelph IV. His second wife was Judith of Flanders. This singular character, after zealously serving the Emperor against the Pope, espoused the cause of his Holiness against the Emperor, and undertaking a voyage to the Holy Land, died in the island of Cyprus.

His son, Guelph V. Duke of Bavaria, joined the Emperor Henry V. against whom his father had turned his arms; and by this policy, and his alliance by marriage with Matilda of Este, he concentrated in his own person all the possessions of the House of Este.

Henry, his successor, surnamed the Black, in-

herited the power and friendship which his father had acquired; and by his marriage with Wilfenden, the daughter of Magnus Billing, Duke of East Saxony, obtained the Duchy of Lunenburg.

Henry, surnamed the Superb, by whom he was succeeded, having been deprived of his Duchies of Bavaria and Saxony, raised an army, with which he marched against Conrad III. who, unwilling to wait the issue of a battle, agreed to restore to him his dominions in Saxony; but he withheld the territories of Bavaria, which were given to Leopold of Austria. This disaster bringing him to an early grave, his brother Guelph VI. having secured the alliance of the King of Sicily, made war upon the Emperor for the recovery of his Bavarian dominions. But after several defeats, being closely besieged in the castle of Weinsberg, he was compelled to surrender at discretion.

The Emperor, proud of his conquest, and willing to show himself generous in distributing the spoils of war, gave orders that the captured ladies should be at liberty to leave the fortress, and to take with them whatsoever they deemed most valuable, and were able to carry away. In this auspicious moment, their conjugal affection rising superior to every other consideration, each lady took her husband on her back. Fortune favoured their virtuous exertions. The Emperor, who beheld their march, stood petrified with astonishment for a moment. He then commanded them to halt; and, bursting into tears, directed them to drop their loads. An awful suspense ensued. But their anxiety was soon removed, when, with true magnanimity, he freely forgave Guelph, and restored to his family the Duchy of Bavaria, for which, until this singular incident, he had been contending without success.

Henry, the nephew of Guelph, who, though a minor, took part in the above war, became after

some time, the most powerful Prince in the Empire. His possessions, which extended to the German Ocean on the north, to the Elbe on the east, to Italy on the south, and to the Rhine on the west, excited the jealousy of the Emperor Frederick, surnamed Barbarossa, who, fearing his greatness, stripped him of all his dominions, pretending that he had oppressed his subjects, and committed many outrages upon his neighbours! His territories of Lunenburgh and Brunswick, were, however, afterwards secured to his children; but Henry retired to England, where he found an asylum in the court of Henry II. whose daughter Matilda, or Maude, he had married as his second wife. By this princess he had a son, named Henry Otho, who succeeded his father in the continental dominions which the compassion of the Emperor had wrung from his own injustice, and he has often been denominated the first Duke of Brunswick Lunenburg.

But the day of retribution was near at hand. This valiant prince, being vigorously supported by Richard Cœur de Lion of England, and by Pope Innocent III. was elected Emperor in opposition to Frederick II. the son of Barbarossa. His right to dominion, however, was contested by Philip Duke of Suabia, supported by the King of France. Several desperate conflicts ensued. Philip was triumphant; and Otho was obliged to seek refuge in England. It was not long, however, before Philip was assassinated. Of this disaster Otho took the advantage: and repairing to Halberstadt, his election was confirmed, or rather renewed, by the Princes of Saxony. The adverse faction was afterwards conciliated by his marriage with Beatrice, the daughter of his assassinated rival. This Prince was a native of England. He was born at Winchester in 1184, and when Richard Cœur de Lion was taken prisoner by Leopold of Austria, he be-

came one of his hostages, thus repaying that friendship which had established him on the throne of the German Empire. His continuance in this region of elevation was, however, of short duration. He was solemnly deposed by the Pope's instigation; and, after finding a retreat in Brunswick, was soon gathered to the sleep of his fathers.

His son Otho, surnamed the Young, having entered into an alliance with the King of Denmark, seized on the Duchy of Brunswick, which had been illegally sold by some of his relations to the Emperor Frederick the Third, of Germany; but in this effort he was unsuccessful, being defeated and made prisoner. His submission, however, gained the affection of the conqueror; and on being liberated, the service which he rendered to him against the Pope, procured the Dukedom of Brunswick, for which he had been in vain contending.

Otho the Young was succeeded, in 1252, by his son Albert. This prince was both valiant and cruel. Having conquered Wolfenbuttel, and taken Gerard, Archbishop of Mentz, and Conrad, Count of Eberstein, prisoners, he barbarously commanded the latter to be hung up by the feet. He was twice married, and had three sons, and finally died of a wound received in a battle, which he fought against the Marquis of Misna.

On his death, his three sons divided his dominions. Albert, the eldest, who was the next Duke of Brunswick-Lunenbourg, married Richsa of Mecklenburgh, by whom he had five sons, among whom he also divided his territorial dominions. From this period the Dukedom of Brunswick passed into the hands of several princes, whose history can excite but little interest; and through the progress of time, became connected with other territories. From the days of Albert, surnamed the Great, in

1252, it passed onward, through a train of descendants and possessors, till the year 1368, when it was held by Magnus II. surnamed Torquantus, from a large silver chain which he wore round his neck. His son Bernard retained Lunenburg, while Brunswick passed to Henry, his near relation, and continued in the direct line of his descendants until the year 1634. The Duke of Lunenburg acquired some small portion of the adjacent country; but Henry being put to the ban of the Empire in 1521, was succeeded by his son, who thought it prudent only to assume the title of Duke of Zell, which title continued until the reign of George William in 1665.

When the son of Henry succeeded to the dominions of his father, Henry was still alive; but policy dictated the measure which they thus adopted. When Henry, who on the death of his father was a minor, came of age, he engaged in several wars against some other branches of their common family, over whom he obtained a complete victory near the town of Peine, in 1519, in which Eric, the Bishop of Minden, and William, brother of Henry of Brunswick, were taken prisoners. To put an end to the devastations of this unnatural war, the Emperor Charles the Fifth, interposed, commanding the contending parties to discontinue their hostilities, and directing the victor to liberate his noble captives. With this requisition the ambitious conqueror refused to comply. The Emperor, exasperated at this refusal, immediately proscribed him. He saw his error when it was too late; but to avoid the consequences which he was well aware must inevitably ensue, he voluntarily resigned his government to his son, Ernest, as the only means of preserving the Duchy from the rapacity of his foes, who, according to the established laws of the Empire, were not authorized

to execute on the sons, who had not committed any offence, the sentence that had been passed upon the victorious father.

The dominion assumed by the Pope, had at this time become too intolerable to be borne. The nations of Europe, beginning to awake from that long slumber in which they had been entranced for ages, dared to examine the ground of his vast pretensions. The doctrines taught by the voice of Infallibility were questioned; the frauds which had been practised were detected; implicit faith was succeeded by free inquiry; the spell was broken; and the light of Reformation began to dawn upon the rational and the moral world.

Among those who presumed to question the pretensions of Infallibility, was Ernest, who succeeded his father in the dominion, and took upon him the title of Duke of Zell. Possessing an enlightened mind, he boldly declared himself in favour of the doctrines taught by Luther, and being personally convinced by the arguments advanced by this venerable Reformer, he recommended them to the examination of his people; and, without attempting to use any coercive measures, anticipated the result which he was fully satisfied would inevitably flow from free examination. This candour and moderation had the desired effect. The rise and progress of the Papal power were minutely examined. Reason and Scripture were triumphant; and ecclesiastical dominion received a deadly blow.

Ernest perceived, with a degree of satisfaction, that might be contrasted with the Pope's indignant feelings, the greater part of his subjects renounce the dominion of a foreign Pontiff, and profess themselves the adherents of Luther. The Pope saw this fatal revolution with all the agonies of a man whose imaginary power was to be scattered with the winds of heaven; and to check its pro-

gress, if those who had renounced his authority could not be recalled, he procured, in the Diet held at Spires in 1529, a motion to be made to carry the ban of the Empire, which had been denounced against Luther, into execution, not only against that arch-heretic, but against all who had adopted his religious principles.

Provoked at this insult, instead of being awed into submission by a mandate which Princes had been accustomed implicitly to obey, Ernest, with many other powerful members of the Empire, boldly entered their *protest* against this extension of the ban, and strenuously opposed the unholy curse of the vindictive Pontiff. It was not without much concern that the Emperor saw the prognostics of an ecclesiastical revolt. He was willing to oblige the Pope; but the consequences which he expected to ensue, should he proceed to extremities, deterred him from his purpose, and neutralized that power, which he was unable to exert with any hope of ultimate success.

At the famous Diet held at Augsburg in 1532, Ernest and the other Princes of the Empire appeared, with a degree of intrepidity which posterity must ever venerate. They were not disposed either to cringe or to menace. The principles of the Reformation had taken deep root in their minds; and they now appeared to avow their conviction, and to defend their cause. In the *protest* which they had prepared for the occasion, they so completely exposed the corruptions of the Romish Church, and adduced such evidence from the Gospel, to prove the gross perversions which these corruptions had sanctioned, that their antagonists were unable to withstand the force of their arguments; nor could the contending parties think of terminating their differences by joining in an accommodation. It was from the Protest thus delivered, that its advocates first obtained the

name of PROTESTANTS;—a name which every friend to his Country, to his Bible, and to his God, should ever cherish with fond remembrance, and which no temporizing measures, though assuming the aspect of liberality, should induce him to barter for all the infallibility that Italy has produced since the Apostolic age.

The Romish party, on the closing of the Diet, finding themselves completely foiled in the use of spiritual and intellectual weapons, made vigorous preparations to try their fortune with those that were carnal, wisely concluding, that

“Powerful reasons, form’d of steel and cord,”

might prove successful, where sophistry and ecclesiastical authority had been suffered to plead in vain. The Protestant Princes were not ignorant of the danger which seemed to await them, from the gathering vengeance with which they were menaced. To protect themselves, they entered into an alliance, which has generally been denominated “the League of Smalcald.” This combination was of an extensive nature, every way adapted to the exigence of the occasion. It was to last five years; and being founded on principles of justice, the Germanic bodies became united in it, by ties which the Papal arms were never able to dissolve.

Ernest, who has been denominated the Pious, and to whom we may add the epithets of Illustrious and Immortal, was the soul of this union; and his name stands foremost among the worthies of that age, to whose instrumentality the states of Europe owe their happy emancipation from the shackles and tyranny of Papal Rome. The league into which the Protestant Princes entered, after the five years had elapsed, was again renewed for ten years, during which time the principles of the Reformation obtained firm anchorage in the hearts of the people; and Protestantism, through the Pro-

vidence of God, triumphantly outrode the storm. This pious, this magnanimous Prince, whose memory is embalmed with more imperishable ingredients than Egypt ever saw, and whose name is enrolled in the archives of immortality, departed this life on January 11th, 1546, leaving, by his wife Sophia of Mecklenburgh, four sons and six daughters, to perpetuate the Protestant name which he had thus gloriously acquired, and to fill with Protestant Princes many of the thrones of Europe. It is to this Prince that we trace up the strong attachment of the House of Brunswick to the Protestant cause. It is this attachment of succeeding Princes to the same principles, that has riveted the loyalty of the British Public to the reigning dynasty; and there can be little doubt, that the succeeding Monarchs of this illustrious race will live enthroned in the hearts of the people, while they continue to cherish those living features of the British Constitution, which placed the diadem on their heads, the sceptre in their hands, and, in a bond of sacred amity, linked the cottage to the throne.

Ernest was succeeded by his eldest son Francis, who dying in 1560, his two brothers, Henry and William, reigned conjointly for ten years. At the expiration of this period, the former resigned his share of the sovereignty to the latter, who exclusively held the dominion of Lunenburg for twenty-three years after the resignation of his brother. Inheriting the principles of his illustrious father, the zeal of this Prince for the prosperity of the Reformation, was conspicuous in all his actions. He composed a Creed, founded on the doctrines he had embraced, which every candidate for Holy Orders throughout his dominions was compelled to sign.

On his demise, having added considerably to his hereditary dominions, he left seven sons and

eight daughters. The sons, unwilling to divide the patrimonial inheritance, and anxious to preserve domestic peace, entered into a mutual agreement, that the eldest should take possession of the Duchy, and enjoy it through life; that it should then descend to the next survivor in succession; and finally, to preserve the peace of posterity, they furthermore agreed, that only one out of the seven should marry, and that this should be determined by lot. Having made these arrangements, the lot to marry fell upon the sixth son, whose name was George. To the monarchs of Europe, who had been accustomed to view their brothers as rivals, this novel compact could not but appear remarkably singular. They waited for its violation with tedious solicitude; and were finally overwhelmed with astonishment and admiration, to find that the seven brothers had a sufficiency of virtue to adhere to those restrictions, which they had thus voluntarily imposed upon themselves.

George, who was at liberty to marry, formed an alliance with the daughter of Lewis V. Landgrave of Hesse Darmstadt, by whom he had four sons and four daughters. In early life he had turned his attention to the military profession, and distinguished himself in several conflicts. He was, however, poisoned by an execrable monk, who contrived, at a banquet, to infuse the deleterious potion into his wine. Drinking only a small quantity, it did not immediately deprive him of life, but his health and strength began to decline, and on the 2d of April, 1641, a fever attacking his weakened constitution, carried him to the grave.

Instructed by the system adopted by himself and his brothers, a short time previous to his death, he made arrangements for the peace of his family, establishing the line of descent that should be preserved, in case of death, or failure in issue. According to these regulations, each of his four

sons enjoyed his allotted privilege; but the three elder dying without children, the divided Principalities became united in the posterity of the younger brother.

Christian-Lewis, the eldest son of George, who succeeded his father in the Principalities of Calenberg and Gottingen, fixed his residence at the metropolis, Hanover. But upon the death of his uncle, he relinquished these in favour of his brother, George-William, choosing Zell and Grubenhagen in their stead.

This Prince dying without issue, his dominions devolved on George-William, the next brother, in 1665, who chose the Dukedom of Zell, and has hence been denominated Duke of Zell. This Duke was intimately acquainted with William, Prince of Orange, who consulted him on all occasions of emergency, and frequently followed his advice. As a warrior and a statesman, he was particularly distinguished; and it was to his councils and wisdom that England stood indebted for many advantages, long before Divine Providence placed this illustrious Family on the British Throne. George-William, Duke of Zell, died August 28, 1705, in the 82d year of his age, leaving one daughter, Sophia Dorothy of Zell, who was afterwards married to his nephew George-Lewis, who inherited his dominions, and was the first Prince of this illustrious Family who wore the British crown.

John-Frederick, the third brother, who reigned fourteen years, and died in 1679, was the next in succession. This Prince having four daughters, his possessions fell to his brother Ernest-Augustus, who, according to the treaty of Westphalia, became Bishop of Osnaburg in 1662, and by these means the House of Brunswick obtained the alternate succession to that Bishopric. Being more favourably received than his predecessors, John-Frederick took up his residence at Osnaburg,

where he built a splendid palace at his own expense. But upon succeeding his brother in his Hanoverian dominions, he appointed a Regency at Osnaburg, and fixed his abode in Hanover, where he abolished the ancient custom of dividing the patrimonial lands among the sons, and established the right of primogeniture. The services which he had rendered to the Empire, made such an impression on the Emperor, that at the Diet of Augsburg, held in 1689, it was decided by a large majority, that the House of Lunenburg had merited a seat in the Electoral College; in consequence of which he was honoured with the dignified title of Elector of the Roman Empire. By the marriage of this Prince with Sophia, youngest daughter of the King of Bohemia, by Elizabeth, eldest daughter of James I. of England and VI. of Scotland, he formed a union of the House of Brunswick with the House of Stewart, and thus established a connection, through which his descendants mounted the throne of these kingdoms.

The history of the Stewart Family, although somewhat connected with the transactions of these times, would furnish a digression too remote from the object of the present work, to justify an insertion. England, from the days of Henry VIII. having become decidedly a Protestant Kingdom, was tenacious of its sacred rights; and although several efforts had been made to introduce the Papal dominion, some signal interposition of Divine Providence always frustrated the designs of Pontifical intrigue, and caused the religious liberties which we now enjoy, to outlive the tempests which frequently threatened to subvert them for ever.

In the eleventh year of William III. and Mary II. eldest daughter of King James II. the House of Commons, perceiving no prospect of any Royal issue, proceeded to adopt measures to prevent any Roman

Catholic branches of the Stewart Family from inheriting the British Crown. Against such exclusion the Duchess of Savoy, who was next in succession to the Princess Anne, entered her solemn protest ; but this was disregarded, and set aside for ever, by the following resolution :

“ That, for the preserving of the peace and happiness of this kingdom, and the security of the Protestant religion by law established, it is absolutely necessary that a further declaration be made in the limitation and succession of the Crown in the Protestant line, after His Majesty, and the Princess, and the heirs of their bodies respectively ; and that further provision be first made for the rights and liberties of the People.”

Upon the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, who was cut off in early life in 1700, His Majesty King William III. recommended, in his speech to both Houses of Parliament, “ that they would consider of settling the Succession of the Crown upon a Protestant, in case of his demise, and that of the Princess Ann of Denmark, without issue of their bodies.” In consequence of this recommendation, the Parliament took the subject into immediate consideration, and during the same session passed an Act, intituled, “ An Act for the further limitation of the Crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject ;” wherein it is enacted, “ That the most Excellent Princess Sophia, Electress and Duchess Dowager of Hanover, daughter of the most Excellent Princess Elizabeth, late Queen of Bohemia, daughter of our late Sovereign Lord King James the First, of happy memory, be, and is hereby declared to be, the next in succession in the Protestant line, to the Imperial crown and dignity of the said realms of England, France, and Ireland, with the dominions and territories thereunto belonging, after His Majesty, and the Princess Anne of Denmark, and in default

of issue of the said Princess Anne, and of His Majesty, respectively: and that from and after the deceases of His said Majesty, our now Sovereign Lord, and of Her Royal Highness the Princess Anne of Denmark, and in default of issue of the said Princess Anne, and of His Majesty, respectively, the crown and regal government of the said kingdoms of England, France, and Ireland, and of the dominions thereunto belonging, with the royal state and dignity of the said realms, and all honours, styles, titles, regalities, prerogatives, powers, jurisdictions, and authorities, to the same belonging and appertaining, shall be, remain, and continue to the said most Excellent Princess Sophia, and the heirs of her body, being Protestants: and thereunto the said Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, shall and will, in the name of all the People of this realm, most humbly and faithfully submit themselves, their heirs and posterities; and do faithfully promise, that after the deceases of His Majesty, and Her Royal Highness, and the failure of the heirs of their respective bodies, to stand to, maintain, and defend the said Princess Sophia, and the heirs of Her body being Protestants, according to the limitation and succession of the Crown, in this act specified and contained, to the utmost of their power, with their lives and estates, against all persons whatsoever that shall attempt any thing to the contrary."

After the passing of this Act, the King ordered it to be finely engrossed, and sealed with the Great Seal of England, and appointed Charles, Earl of Macclesfield, to go over to the court of Hanover, and present the said Act to Her Royal Highness: but before his departure from England, His most Serene Highness George-Lewis, then the Elector, having been elected a Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter, the said Lord was commissioned by the Sovereign to invest his

Electoral Highness with the whole habit and ornaments of the said order. Upon his Lordship's arrival at that court, he was very nobly received by Her Royal Highness, by the Elector, and by the whole Court, and splendidly entertained, as well as all his retinue, at the Elector's charge, during his stay at Hanover: and after his audience of leave, his Lordship was presented, both by Her Royal Highness and the Elector, with jewels and gold plate to a very considerable value.

To commemorate the signal honour thus conferred, the Princess caused a medal to be struck, bearing on the one side the head of Her Royal Highness, and on the reverse that of Matilda, or Maud, daughter of Henry II. who, as we have already noticed, was married to Henry, surnamed the Lion, Duke of Saxony and Bavaria, from whom the families of Lunenburg and Palatine are both lineally descended.

Queen Anne, on ascending the throne of England in 1702, continued to evince the sincerity of those professions which she had made when the possession lay before her only in prospect. Her attachment to the House of Brunswick remained unshaken; for, not long after her Accession, she ordered Prayers in the Liturgy of the Church to be offered up to Almighty God in behalf of the Princess Sophia, whom she connected with the Royal Family. Nor was her attachment to the Protestant religion less ardent than that of her illustrious predecessor. In the fourth year of her reign she gave the Royal assent to an Act for Naturalizing the Princess Sophia and the heirs of her body.

About the same time, another Act was passed, intituled, "An Act for the greater security of Her Majesty's Person and Government, and of the Succession of the Crown of England in the Protestant line." This Act concludes with the following remarkable expressions:

“That the succession to the monarchy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, and of the dominions thereunto belonging, after Her Most Sacred Majesty, and in default of issue of Her Majesty, be, remain, and continue to the Most Excellent Princess Sophia, Electress and Duchess-Dowager of Hanover, and the heirs of her body, being Protestants, upon whom the Crown of England is settled by an Act of Parliament made in England in the twelfth year of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Third, intituled, An Act for the further limitation of the Crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the Subject. And that all Papists, and persons marrying Papists, shall be excluded from, and for ever be incapable to inherit, possess, or enjoy the Imperial Crown of Great Britain, and the dominions thereunto belonging, or any part thereof. And in every such case, the Crown and Government shall from time to time descend to, and be enjoyed by such person being Protestant, as should have inherited or enjoyed the same, in case such Papists, or person marrying a Papist, was naturally dead, according to the Provision for the descent of the Crown of England, made by another Act of Parliament in England, in the first year of the reign of Their late Majesties King William and Queen Mary, intituled, An Act declaring the rights and liberties of the Subject, and settling the succession of the Crown.”

But although these provisions were made for the settlement of the British Crown on the Princess Sophia, her advanced age rendered it rather improbable that she would ever sway the sceptre of these realms. The uncertainties attendant upon human life, however, rendered the measures which were adopted necessary; but the shafts of death defeated the execution of these salutary intentions, and frustrated the wisely concerted schemes. In the month of May, 1714, the Princess Sophia paid

the debt of nature, in the eighty-fourth year of her age. Her death was announced to Her Majesty Queen Anne, by Baron Bothmar, who arrived in England as Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector of Hanover, to communicate this important event. The Court of England went immediately into mourning on the occasion; and the Elector of Brunswick was prayed for by name, in the liturgy. This Princess has been represented as possessing strong intellectual powers, which were refined by education, and as being one of the most accomplished Princesses of the age in which she lived.

Nor did Queen Anne long survive the aged Princess Sophia. For some time her health had been in a declining state; and, through a series of indispositions, arising from anxiety, and a variety of causes, operating on an impaired constitution, her approaching dissolution was anticipated with much solicitude. In this delicate state, being compelled to attend on public business with more anxiety than her strength could bear, she was seized with strong symptoms of an approaching lethargy. To remove her complaints, several medicines were prescribed; but these failing of success, her situation grew every day more and more alarming. She, however, continued to doze in a state of comparative insensibility, from the 30th of July, until the 1st of August, 1714, when, about seven in the morning, she departed this life, in the fiftieth year of her age, and the thirteenth of her reign.

The death of this Princess leaving the throne open to her successor, orders were issued, agreeably to the Act of Settlement, to proclaim George-Lewis, Elector of Brunswick, King of Great Britain.

This Prince (George I.) ascended the Throne of England in the fifty-fifth year of his age. He was

proclaimed King on the same day on which the Queen died, and landed at Greenwich on the 18th of the following September. Having served in three campaigns against the Turks, he was an expert warrior; and his skill in government was not inferior to his renown in arms. On his accession, the country had just passed from a state of warfare to a state of peace; but tranquillity having been purchased at a dishonourable price, many of the ministers by whom the treaty of Utrecht had been concluded, were disgraced, several were impeached, and some were driven into exile.

Among the principal events by which the reign of this Monarch was distinguished, the following are the most remarkable. In the year 1715, the Earl of Marr made an attempt to restore the Pretender, whom he caused to be proclaimed King. But this effort was soon overwhelmed, and several expiated their offences with their lives upon the scaffold. The destruction of the Spanish fleet by Sir George Byng, was an illustrious event; but this was counterbalanced by an unfortunate expedition against Porto Bello. A conspiracy was also discovered against the government, in which Bishop Atterbury was so far implicated as to be banished the kingdom. Against the important fortress of Gibraltar, a close siege was laid by the Spaniards; but the attempt proved unsuccessful. Through a considerable portion of his reign, his councils were disturbed by powerful and contending factions.

In the year 1727, when the aspect of public affairs seemed to sanction the measure, the King embarked at Greenwich, to visit his Electoral dominions, and landed in Holland on the 7th of June. But on his journey to Hanover, he was seized with a paralytic stroke, which soon brought him to his grave. He seemed sensible of his danger, and exclaimed, "It is all over with me." He,

however, reached Osnaburg, of which his brother was Bishop, in whose house he expired, in the 68th year of his age, and the thirteenth of his reign.

His son George-Augustus, who had been created Prince of Wales when his father ascended the throne, and who was constituted Regent during the King's absence, next succeeded to the crown. He married Wilhelmina-Carolina of Anspach, grandmother of His late Majesty. Through some private uneasiness which had subsisted between himself and his father, this Prince, for a considerable time, had been a stranger at Court. It is evident, however, that this could not have arisen from any dissension in opinion, as to public measures, for, on his ascending the throne, he retained the same ministers, and pursued the same system of government, which had distinguished his father's reign.

That no doubt might remain on the minds of his subjects, as to the religious and political principles by which he intended to be guided, His Majesty, on the 14th of June, declared in council, that he was decidedly friendly to the Protestant succession, and was resolved to maintain inviolable the religion, laws, and liberties of the kingdom, and to adhere to the alliances which his late Father had contracted, and which had in no small degree contributed to the tranquillity of Europe.

Actuated by these principles, he determined to espouse the cause of the injured Queen, Maria-Theresa, whom the king of France, and other continental powers, had combined to deprive of her inheritance. With this view, he sent an English army to the continent, which was joined by a large body of Hanoverian troops, the whole being commanded by the Earl of Stair. The next day His Majesty followed his soldiers, and, at the battle of Dettingen, fought at the head of his own regiment with peculiar bravery; and his arms were crowned

with success. On the following year, war was declared against France; and Commodore Anson returned from his voyage round the world. In 1745, the English and their allies were beaten at the battle of Fontenoy, through which the French obtained the ascendancy in Flanders. Encouraged by these events, the grandson of James II. renewed his pretensions to the crown; and, aided by the partisans of the Papal faction, effected a landing on the Scottish coast. Success at first seemed to favour their enterprise. A battle was fought at Preston-Pans, in which the English forces under the command of Sir John Cope were completely routed, all the infantry except 170 being either killed or made prisoners. In this engagement the brave and pious Colonel Gardiner fell in the field of battle.

Animated with these favourable omens, the Pretender, at the head of his victorious Highlanders, determined to push his fortune; and the rapidity of his march threw all England into a state of alarm. But the Duke of Cumberland, returning from Flanders at the head of a few regiments, took the command of the forces, and on the 15th of April, 1745, so completely vanquished the rebel army, that the Pretender never more became an object either of terror or apprehension.

The House of Brunswick being now firmly established, Frederick-Lewis, Prince of Wales, the eldest son of George II. and father of His late Majesty, was viewed as the heir apparent to the throne. This Prince was born on the continent, January 20, 1706. He arrived in England in December, 1729. On the 27th of April, 1736, he was married to Augusta, Princess of Saxe-Gotha, and died March 20th, 1751. His Princess, Augusta of Saxe-Gotha, died on the 8th of February, 1772, aged 52 years. From this union sprang the following issue: Augusta, afterwards Duchess of

Brunswick, born August 11th, 1737. George-Augustus, afterwards George III. Edward-Augustus, born March 25th, 1739, and died Duke of York, September 17th, 1769. Eliza-Caroline, born January 10th, 1740, and died in September, 1759. William-Henry, born November 23d, and died Duke of Gloucester, August 25, 1805. Henry-Frederick, born November 7th, 1745, and died Duke of Cumberland, in September, 1790. Louisa-Anne, born May 29th, 1748, and died May 21st, 1768. Frederick-William, born May 24th, 1750, and died May 10th, 1765. Caroline-Matilda, born July 22d, 1751, and died Queen of Denmark, 1775.

Through some cause which has not been publicly developed, the father of His late Majesty either withdrew from, or was forbidden the Court, in the year which followed that of his marriage. On this account, his name bears no conspicuous rank in the great events which distinguished the period in which he lived. As a man, his manners were courteous and amiable, and so far as he has been known, the nation was well disposed towards him, as the heir apparent to the throne; but his premature death terminated the fond expectations that were entertained of his excellence, when time should call him to sway the British sceptre.

We have already noticed, that the early life of George II. was much agitated with a foreign war;—with the efforts of rebellion raised by the Pretender;—and by distracted councils, which much embarrassed the measures of his government. The tide, however, afterwards took a decided turn in his favour. The Earl of Chatham being called to his council, gave a vigorous impulse to public opinion; and the successes which attended his administration, confirmed the favourable sentiments which his talents and virtues had inspired.

It was in no small degree owing to his superior

talents, that the French power in the East Indies was nearly annihilated;—that their colonies in the western Archipelago were reduced to the dominion of Britain;—that Canada was conquered;—and that the victory of Minden exalted the reputation of the British soldiery to the highest pitch of military glory. The successes of England upon the ocean were equally triumphant. The victories of her fleets corresponded with the conquests of her armies. Both by sea and land the pride of France was humbled; and the boasted power of that ambitious nation, reduced to a state of comparative insignificance, descended from that pinnacle of exalted greatness, which, through succeeding periods, it has hitherto strove in vain to recover.

But while the arms of Britain prospered in every effort which tended to promote the real interests of the nation, an event happened, which silenced, for a season, the trumpet of victory, by substituting the solemnities of a funeral knell. On the 25th of October, 1760, His Majesty, without having complained of any previous indisposition, was found by his domestics expiring in his chamber. He had arisen at his accustomed hour, and intimated to his attendants, that as the weather was inviting, he would take the air in the gardens of Kensington, where he then resided. Having finished his walk, he returned, and retired to his chamber, where, being alone, he was heard to fall on the floor. His attendants, hearing a sound so very ominous, hastened to the apartment, and finding him in this alarming situation, lifted him into bed. His Majesty, apparently aware of his danger, desired, in a faint voice, that the Princess Amelia might instantly be called. His orders were immediately obeyed; but, before she could arrive, he had breathed his last. The surgeons, on their arrival, attempted to bleed him, still hoping that the embers of lingering life might be again rekin-

dled; but all their efforts proved abortive. On opening his body, it was discovered, that the right ventricle of his heart was actually ruptured, and that a quantity of blood had found its way through the aperture into the surrounding pericardium. Thus died His Majesty George II. at Kensington, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and in the thirty-third of his reign.

By the writers of contending factions, his character and talents have been variously estimated. In his temper he is said to have been rather violent. But these momentary impulses rarely occasioned any variation in his conduct, which seems to have been guided by more permanent principles. His attachment to his continental possessions was strong; but through the whole of his life he appeared more friendly to the useful virtues, than to the decorations of external splendour. Rectitude and integrity were conspicuous in his character; and his noble declaration, "There shall be no persecution for conscience' sake in my dominions, during my reign;" will be transmitted to posterity, to his immortal honour, when his personal courage, and the many splendid events of his reign, shall cease to be remembered, or shall be perused in the page of history without exciting any particular interest.

CHAPTER III.

Probable causes, and progress, of dissension in the Royal Family, in 1737.—Mysterious conduct of Frederick Prince of Wales.—Royal correspondence.—Sudden removal.—Birth of George III.—Royal baptism.—Curious extracts.—Death and character of Queen Caroline.—Horace Walpole.—Scandalous anecdotes, derogatory to Royalty.—The INFANCY of GEORGE III.—Sketches of the age.—Verses addressed to Frederick Prince of Wales.—Sketches.—The fall of Sir Robert Walpole.—Sketches.—Lines addressed to Frederick Prince of Wales.—Sketches.—Proclamation of Prince Charles, called the Pretender.—Address of the Sons of the Clergy.—Conversation between Thomson the Poet and George III. in 1747.

HIS late Majesty George III. who, as stated in the preceding chapter, was grandson to George II. was born on the 24th of May, 1738, which, through the alteration of the style in 1752, became the 4th of June, on which day the anniversary of his birth has been regularly celebrated. It has also been stated, that his father was Frederick Prince of Wales, and son of George II. and that his mother was the Princess Sophia of Saxe-Gotha. His parents were married in 1736, to whom was born, in 1737, a Princess named Augusta; on whose birth, and the circumstances connected with it, we find it necessary to make some remarks, as they tend to throw light on that unhappy discord which subsisted between the Father of His late Majesty and George II.

It is a melancholy truth, that the seat of Royalty is not always the abode of domestic peace. The thorns of disquietude spring up in every family; and it too frequently happens, that those who sit

in proud elevation on the pinnacle of earthly magnificence and glory, pine in secret, and sigh in vain for that tranquillity which accompanies the humble peasant in his daily labour and his nightly repose.

It is a well known fact, that, for some reasons which have not been fully developed, the first pregnancy of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was concealed, or at least not officially announced, until within a month of her delivery; when, without that etiquette which is generally attendant on the birth of Princes, she was removed from place to place, under circumstances not less mysterious, than the reasons were obscure, for the concealment of the fact.

Prior to this event, some unpleasant feelings had been excited, respecting the settlement for the support of Her Royal Highness; and this unfortunate circumstance tended to widen the breach, which, until many years had elapsed, was never completely healed. For the support of his establishment, the Prince had been allowed £50,000 per annum. This he conceived ought to be augmented to £100,000. An address was accordingly presented to His Majesty, beseeching him, that in consideration of the dignity and exalted rank of the Prince and Princess, he would be graciously pleased to settle on them the additional sum requested, from that revenue which had been cheerfully granted to him for defraying the expenses of his government, the supporting of the dignity of his crown, and to enable him to make an honourable provision for the royal household.

To a man less parsimonious than His Majesty, this address must have communicated an unpleasant sensation. Whether those who advised the measure, were aware of the effects likely to ensue, and promoted the application with a design to increase the discord that already subsisted, or that they flattered themselves with some hope of suc-

cess, are questions, the decision of which can only be inferred from their political characters. The King, however, instead of granting the sum requested, was evidently displeased, and, in reply, returned the following message:

His Majesty's Message to the Prince of Wales, by the Lord Chancellor, Lord President, Lord Steward, Lord Chamberlain, Dukes of Richmond, Argyle, Newcastle, Earls of Pembroke, Scarborough, and Lord Harrington; which, being in writing, was as follows, viz.

His Majesty has commanded us to acquaint Your Royal Highness, in his name, that, upon Your Royal Highness's marriage, he immediately took into his royal consideration the settling a proper jointure upon the Princess of Wales; but his sudden going abroad, and his late indisposition since his return, had hitherto retarded the execution of these his gracious intentions; from which short delay His Majesty did not apprehend any inconveniences could arise, especially since no application had, in any manner, been made to him upon this subject by Your Royal Highness: and that His Majesty hath now given orders for settling a jointure upon the Princess of Wales, as far as he is enabled by law, suitable to her high rank and dignity; which he will, in proper time, lay before his Parliament, in order to be rendered certain and effectual, for the benefit of Her Royal Highness.

The King has further commanded us to acquaint Your Royal Highness, that, although Your Royal Highness has not thought fit, by any application to His Majesty, to desire that your allowance of fifty thousand pounds *per annum*, which is now paid you by monthly payments, at the choice of Your Royal Highness, preferably to quarterly payments, might, by His Majesty's further grace and favour, be rendered less precarious; His Majesty, to prevent the bad consequences, which, he apprehends, may follow from the undutiful measures, which, His Majesty is informed, Your Royal Highness has been advised to pursue, will grant to Your Royal Highness, for His Majesty's life, the said fifty thousand pounds *per annum*, to be issuing out of His Majesty's civil list revenues, over and above Your Highness's revenues arising from the duchy of Cornwall; which His Majesty thinks a very competent allowance, considering his numerous issue, and the great expenses which do and must necessarily attend an honourable provision for his whole Royal Family.

It is not probable that this message was calculated to make any pleasant impression on the mind of Frederick. He was, however, aware of his situation; and as some answer must be returned, he thought it prudent to conceal the indignant feelings which it had awakened, and to give a reply, which, without abandoning the subject of his address, should not increase that irritation which had already become reciprocal. Of his answer, which was verbal, the following is the import:

He desired the Lords, by whom the message had been brought, to lay him in deep humility at His Majesty's royal feet, and to assure him, that the duty which he had hitherto manifested towards his Royal person, should be invariably cherished through his future life; that for any act of His Majesty's goodness towards him and the Princess he was particularly thankful, especially for His Majesty's gracious intention of settling a jointure upon the Princess; but that, as the subject which was more immediately the object of his own address, and of His Majesty's message, was now in other hands, it was not in his power to say any thing that might lead to an ultimate issue.

This question was afterwards agitated in the House of Lords with much spirit and animation; and the debate to which its investigation led, called forth a display of commanding eloquence, which had rarely been heard, except on the most momentous occasions. The request of the Prince was, however, finally negatived by a large majority; there being in his favour only forty, and against him one hundred and four. Against this decision the dissentient Lords entered their protest, assigning the following reasons why they thought his claims ought to be allowed:

Dissentient,

1. Because that this House has an undoubted right to offer, in an humble address to His Majesty, their sense, upon all

subjects in which this House shall conceive that the honour and interest of the nation are concerned :

2. Because the honour and interest of the Nation, Crown, and Royal Family, can be concerned in nothing more, than in having a due and independent provision made for the first-born Son, and Heir apparent to the Crown :

3. Because, in the late King's reign, £100,000 a year, clear of all deductions whatsoever, was settled upon His present Majesty when Prince of Wales, out of a civil list not exceeding £700,000 a year :

4. Because His present Majesty had granted him by Parliament, several funds to compose a civil list of £800,000 a year, which we have very good reason to believe bring in at least £900,000, and are more likely to increase than to diminish :

5. Because out of this extraordinary and growing civil list, we humbly conceive His Majesty may be able to make an honourable provision for the rest of His Royal Family, without any necessity of lessening that revenue which, in his own case, when he was Prince of Wales, the wisdom of Parliament adjudged to be a proper maintenance for the first-born Son, and Heir apparent of the Crown :

6. Because it is the undoubted right of Parliament to explain the intention of their own acts, and to offer their advice in pursuance thereof. And though, in the inferior Courts of Westminster-hall, the judges can only consider an Act of Parliament according to the letter and express words of the Act, the Parliament itself may proceed in a higher way, by declaring what was their sense in passing it, and on what grounds, especially in a matter recent, and within the memory of many in the House, as well as out of it :

7. Because there were many obvious and good reasons, why the sum of £100,000 per annum for the Prince, was not specified in the Act passed at that time, particularly his being a minor, and unmarried. But we do apprehend, that it is obvious, that the Parliament would not have granted to His Majesty so great a revenue above that of the late King, but with an intention that £100,000 a year should at a proper time be settled on the Prince, in the same manner as it was enjoyed by His Royal Father when he was Prince of Wales; and His Royal Highness being now thirty years old, and most happily married, we apprehend it can no longer be delayed, without prejudice to the honour of the Family, the right of the Prince, and the intention of the Parliament. And as in many cases the Crown is known to stand as trustee for

the public, upon grants in Parliament; so we humbly conceive, that in this case, according to the intention of Parliament, the Crown stands as trustee for the Prince, for the aforesaid sum:

8. Because we do conceive, that the present Princess of Wales ought to have the like jointure that Her present Majesty had when she was Princess of Wales; and that it would be for the honour of the Crown, that no distinction whatsoever should be made between persons of equal rank and dignity:

9. Because we apprehend, that it has always been the policy of this Country, and care of Parliament, that a suitable provision, independent of the Crown, should be made for the Heir apparent, that by shewing him early the ease and dignity of independence, he may learn by his own experience, how a great and free people should be governed. And as we are convinced in our consciences, that if this question had been passed in the affirmative, it would have prevented all future uneasiness that may unhappily rise upon this subject, by removing the cause of such uneasiness, and giving His Royal Highness what we apprehend to be his right, we make use of the privileges inherent in Members of this House, to clear ourselves to all posterity from being concerned in laying it aside:

10. Lastly, We thought it more incumbent upon us to insist upon this motion, for the sake of this Royal Family, under which alone we are fully convinced we can live free; and under the Royal Family we are fully determined we will live free.

<i>Winchelsea and Nottingham,</i>	<i>Bridgwater,</i>
<i>Berkshire,</i>	<i>Bedford,</i>
<i>Cobham,</i>	<i>Weymouth,</i>
<i>Chesterfield,</i>	<i>Bathurst.</i>
<i>Cardigan,</i>	<i>Coventry,</i>
<i>Marlborough,</i>	<i>Ker,</i>
<i>Carteret,</i>	<i>Suffolk.</i>

Far be it from the Editor's wish to harrow up old grievances; but it is an act of justice which he owes to the memory of Frederick, Prince of Wales, to give his opinion decidedly, that he did not merit any censure for advancing this claim, nor suffer any dishonour by its defeat.

His Royal Highness had been married upwards of a year; he found that his expenses exceeded his income; debts were accumulating, and he might reasonably conceive it was rather a question between himself and the ministry, than between the Sovereign and the Heir apparent.

From this affair, however, arose a complicated chain of feuds and animosities; in the course of which there is no doubt that transactions occurred which were not creditable to either party. The Prince, it is very obvious, was highly reprehensible in concealing the pregnancy of the Princess; though it is exceedingly probable, that the previous discord was not without its influence in leading to this singular secrecy. When the fact could no longer be concealed, His Royal Highness officially made the Queen acquainted with the circumstance, desiring her to communicate the information to His Majesty. But, unfortunately, this was done in a manner that tends rather to increase the mystery than to remove the veil. It was stated in the letter which transmitted the intelligence, *that there is no longer any doubt of the Princess's being with child; and that, as soon as the authority of Dr. Hollings and Mrs. Cannon was procured, he had not failed to make their Majesties acquainted with the fact*; although, when this avowal was made, she had nearly approached the period of her confinement. The letter to Her Majesty was dated on the 5th of July, 1737, and within the short space of about twenty-one days, Her Royal Highness was safely delivered of a daughter. In consequence of this tardy annunciation, and of some subsequent events, the King was highly incensed; and on the 3d of August, 1737, he sent from Hampton Court, by Lord Essex, the following message, expressive of his indignity:

“The King has commanded me to acquaint Your Royal Highness, that His Majesty most

heartily rejoices at the safe delivery of the Princess; but, that your carrying away Her Royal Highness from Hampton Court, the then residence of the King, the Queen, and the Royal Family, under the pains and certain indication of immediate labour, to the imminent danger and hazard both of the Princess and her child, and after sufficient warnings for a week before, to have made the necessary preparations for this happy event; without acquainting His Majesty, or the Queen, with the circumstances the Princess was in, or giving them the least notice of your departure; is looked upon by the King to be such a deliberate indignity, offered to himself, and to the Queen, that he has commanded me to acquaint Your Royal Highness, that he resents it to the highest degree."

This message gave rise to the following Royal Correspondence, *viz.*

Letter from the Prince to the King: transmitted by Lord Jersey, August 3, 1737.

SIR,

It is with all the mortification imaginable, that I see by the message my Lord Essex has brought me, that my coming to town with the Princess, has had the misfortune to displease Your Majesty. Permit me, Sir, to represent to you, that in the pressing situation I was in on Sunday, without a midwife or any assistance, it was impossible for me to delay one moment; otherwise I should not have failed to have come myself to acquaint Your Majesty with it. Besides which, the greatest expedition in the world could never have brought Mrs. Cannon in less than two or three hours after the birth of the child. As the Princess had had the colic for several days, Mrs. Cannon, Dr. Hollings, and Dr. Broxholmè, who were often consulted, all assured me she was not yet so near her time, of which opinion these two physicians still were on Sunday at noon; but in case she had pains different from the colic, that a cordial should be given her, and that she should be brought to town as soon as possible. This advice I followed in every point, and am very much concerned that

a case should happen, in which my tenderness for the Princess might seem one moment to remove, what is otherwise first in my thoughts, the desire of shewing my devotion to Your Majesty. Besides this, if I may take the liberty to say so, the Princess desired me so earnestly at that time to carry her to London, where all assistance was nearer at hand, that I could not resist it: For I could never have forgiven myself, if, in consequence of my refusal, any accident had happened to her. I hope all this will move Your Majesty, and that you will give me leave to lay myself at your feet to-morrow at your levee, which I should not have failed to have done last Monday, if the Queen had not ordered me to defer it till this day. The only thing that has hindered me to-day, is the fear I have had, since I have seen my Lord Essex, of displeasing Your Majesty, in case I should come into your presence before I took the liberty to explain to you, with all submission, the true and only motive of the step with which you seem offended. I am, with the greatest respect imaginable,

Sir, Your Majesty's most humble, and most
obedient son, servant, and subject,

FREDERICK.

Letter from the Prince to the Queen, transmitted by Lord Jersey, August 3, 1737.

MADAM,

You cannot imagine how much the message my Lord Essex brought me has afflicted me. I flattered myself that the reasons I took the liberty to give Your Majesty, when you had the goodness to come and see the Princess, would have justified my departure from Hampton Court to the King. I have taken the liberty to recapitulate those reasons in the letter I have done myself the honour to write to him upon that subject, flattering myself, Your Majesty will be so good as to lend them your assistance. I am, with great respect,

Madam, your most humble, and most
obedient son and servant,

FREDERICK.

*Letter from the Prince to the King, August 4, 1737,
transmitted by Lord Carnarvon.*

SIR,

Will you permit me to lay at your feet, my grief for the refusal I received last night, to make my court to you to-day; I cannot express how much I suffer from being deprived of

that honour; and seeing myself out of Your Majesty's favour. If any thing could comfort me in that misfortune, it would be the innocence of my intentions, which I beg Your Majesty to believe could never be to offend you. I do not take the liberty to recapitulate the reasons which induced me to leave Hampton Court so suddenly, but I flatter myself Your Majesty will more easily grant me that pardon which I ask, when you reflect on the condition in which I found myself with the poor Princess, at a time when it was not fit for me to delay a moment. I take the liberty, then, most earnestly to conjure Your Majesty to restore me to your favour, and to permit me to make my court to you to-morrow at your *levee*, till which time I cannot be at ease. I am, with all the respect imaginable,

Sir, Your Majesty's most humble,
and most obedient son, servant, and subject,

FREDERICK.

Verbal Message from the King to the Prince, transmitted by Lord Dunmore, August 20, 1737.

It being now three weeks since the Princess was brought to bed, His Majesty hopes there can be no inconvenience to the Princess, if Monday the 29th instant be appointed for baptizing the Princess his grand-daughter; and having determined, that His Majesty, the Queen, and the Duchess Dowager of Saxe-Gotha, shall be godfather and godmothers, he will send his Lord Chamberlain to represent himself, and the Queen's Lady of the Bedchamber to represent the Queen, and desires the Princess will order one of her Ladies of the Bedchamber to stand for the Duchess Dowager of Saxe-Gotha, and the King will send to the Archbishop of Canterbury, to attend, and perform the ceremony.

Letter from the Prince to the King, August 20, 1737, sent by Lord Carnarvon.

SIR,

The Princess and I take the liberty to thank Your Majesty most humbly for the honour you intend to do our daughter, in standing godfather to her; the orders my Lord Dunmore has brought shall be punctually executed. I should think myself very happy, if upon that occasion I might take the liberty to come and throw myself at your feet. Nothing could prevent me, but the prohibition I have received from Your Majesty. To be deprived of your favour, is the thing in the world the most mortifying to me, who not only respect you, but,

(if I may make use of that expression,) most tenderly love you. Will you permit me once again humbly to beseech you to pardon a fault, in which at least the intention had no share, and to permit me again to make my court to you at your *levee*? I take the liberty to conjure you to grant this request, as a thing that will restore my quiet. I am, with all possible submission,

Sir, Your Majesty's most humble, and
most obedient son, subject, and servant,

FREDERICK.

The Prince to the King, sent by Lord North, Aug. 30, 1737.

SIR,

It is with all possible respect that I take the liberty to thank Your Majesty once more, for the honour you have thought fit to do the Princess and me, in being godfather to our daughter. I cannot let this opportunity pass, without repeating my petition for that pardon which I have so often asked. I should be glad to find words that could soften the paternal heart of Your Majesty; if there were any that could stronger mark my grief and my respect, I assure Your Majesty I would make use of them. There remains, then, nothing more for me to say, but to conjure you once again to re-establish me in your favour; and to assure you, that nothing in the world shall change the tender respect I owe you, being, with great submission,

Sir, Your Majesty's most humble, and
most obedient son, subject, and servant,

FREDERICK.

*The Prince to the Queen, transmitted by Lord North,
August 30, 1737.*

MADAM,

I think it my duty to thank you once more most humbly for the honour you have done the Princess and me in being godmother to our daughter. I am extremely mortified that the King's prohibition hinders me from doing it by word of mouth; nothing else should stop me. I flatter myself that the continuation of your good offices, joined to the letter I have done myself the honour to write to the King upon that subject, will procure me that permission; and that I shall soon have the satisfaction to appear before you again.

I am, with all imaginable respect, Madam,
your most humble, and most obedient
son and servant,

FREDERICK.

Message from the King to the Prince, transmitted by the Duke of Grafton, Duke of Richmond, and Lord Pembroke, Saturday, September 10, 1737.

GEORGE R.

The professions you have made in your letters, of your peculiar regard to me, are so contradictory to all your actions, that I cannot suffer myself to be imposed upon by them.

You know very well you did not give the least intimation to me or to the Queen, that the Princess was with child or breeding, until within less than a month of the birth of the young Princess: you removed the Princess twice in the week immediately preceding the day of her delivery, from the place of my residence, in expectation, as you have voluntarily declared, of her labour; and both times upon your return, you industriously concealed from the knowledge of me and the Queen, every circumstance relating to this important affair: and you at last, without giving any notice to me or to the Queen, precipitately hurried the Princess from Hampton Court, in a condition not to be named. After having thus, in execution of your own determined measures, exposed both the Princess and her child to the greatest perils, you now plead surprise and tenderness for the Princess, as the only motives that occasioned these repeated indignities offered to me and to the Queen your mother.

This extravagant and undutiful behaviour, in so essential a point as the birth of an Heir to my crown, is such an evidence of your premeditated defiance of me, and such a contempt of my authority, and of the natural right belonging to your parents, as cannot be excused by the pretended innocence of your intentions, nor palliated or disguised by specious words only.

But the whole tenor of your conduct for a considerable time has been so entirely void of all real duty to me, that I have long had reason to be highly offended with you.

And until you withdraw your regard and confidence from those by whose instigation and advice you are directed and encouraged in your unwarrantable behaviour to me and to the Queen, and until you return to your duty, you shall not reside in my palace; which I will not suffer to be made the resort of them, who, under the appearance of an attachment to you, foment the division which you have made in my family, and thereby weaken the common interest of the whole.

In this situation I will receive no reply: but when your actions manifest a just sense of your duty and submission,

that may induce me to pardon what at present I most justly resent.

In the mean time, it is my pleasure that you leave St. James's with all your family, when it can be done without prejudice or inconvenience to the Princess. I shall for the present leave to the Princess the care of my grand-daughter, until a proper time calls upon me to consider of her education.

(Signed) G R.

*The Princess at Kew, to the King at Hampton Court.—
Transmitted by Sir William Irby to Lord Pembroke, and
by Lord Pembroke delivered to the King, Sept. 15, 1737.*

SIR,

It is with all possible respect that I take the liberty to thank Your Majesty most humbly for the honour you were pleased to do me in being godfather to my daughter. I should not have failed to come myself and pay my duty to you at Hampton Court, to thank you by word of mouth; but as I have at present the misfortune to be debarred that honour, I hope Your Majesty will not be displeased that I take the liberty of doing it in writing. It is a great aggravation of my sorrow upon this occasion, to find, that by the Prince's tenderness for me, I am the innocent cause of his disgrace; and I flatter myself, if I had leave to throw myself at Your Majesty's feet, I could have explained the Prince's conduct in a manner that would have softened Your Majesty's resentment. How much am I to be pitied, Sir, that an incident so grateful to me, and at the same time so agreeable to the Public, should unfortunately become the unhappy cause of a division in the family! I shall trouble Your Majesty no farther than to assure you, that as it is to you I owe all my happiness, so to you, I flatter myself, I shall likewise soon owe the quiet of my life.

I am, with all the respect imaginable, Sir,

Your Majesty's most humble, and most obedient
daughter, subject, and servant,
AUGUSTA.

*The King to the Princess. September 18, 1737. Sent by
Lord Pembroke to Sir William Irby.*

I am sorry, Madam, that any thing should happen to give you the least uneasiness. It is a misfortune to you, but not owing to me, that you are involved in the consequences of

your husband's inexcusable conduct; I pity you, to see you first exposed to the utmost danger, in the execution of his designs, and then made the plea for a series of repeated indignities offered to me. I wish some insinuations in your letter had been omitted, which however I do not impute to you, as I am convinced it is not from you they proceed.

G. R.

The Princess to the Queen, September 17, 1737.

MADAM,

I take the liberty most humbly to thank Your Majesty for the honour you did me in coming twice to see me, and also for having been pleased to be godmother to my daughter. I am extremely mortified that I could not do it in person, as I certainly should have done, if the King's orders had not put it out of my power. I am extremely concerned at the manner in which the conduct of the Prince has been represented to Your Majesties, and especially in the article relating to our two journeys from Hampton Court to London the week before I was brought to bed. I can venture to assure Your Majesty, that the physicians and the midwife were then of opinion, that I should not lie in before the month of September, and that the pain I complained of was only the colic; and indeed, Madam, is it credible, that if I had gone twice to London, with the design and expectation of being brought to bed, I should have returned to Hampton Court? I flatter myself, that time and Your Majesty's good offices will procure a happy change to the present situation of affairs, which must affect me so much more sensibly, as I look upon myself to be the innocent cause of it.

I am, with all imaginable respect, Madam,

Your most humble, and most obedient

daughter and servant,

AUGUSTA.

The Queen to the Princess, September 20, 1737.

I am very glad, my dear Princess, to hear you are perfectly recovered of your lying-in; you may assure yourself, as you have never offended either the King or me, I shall never fail to give you every mark of my regard and affection. I think it would be unbecoming either of us to enter into a discussion of the unhappy division between the King and my Son; and when you are truly informed of the several declarations that have been made relating to your journeys from Hampton

Court, by whom, and to whom, they were made, you will be convinced, that the conduct of your husband has no way been misrepresented. I hope time and due consideration will bring my Son to a just sense of his duty to his Father; which will be the only means of procuring that happy change, which you cannot more sincerely wish than I do.

CAROLINE.

The ultimate issue of this correspondence was no less decisive, than an order from the indignant Sovereign to his Son and Heir to quit his Court; which mandate was quickly obeyed. Shortly after this, the exiled pair took up their residence at Leicester House, which, about thirty years since, became a carpet warehouse, and it is now let out in tenements. But here the Royal fugitives were not allowed long to repose; the following harsh measure putting the finishing touch to this lamentable tissue of Royal quarrels:

“His Majesty having been informed that due regard has not been paid to his order of the 11th of September, 1737, has thought fit to declare that no person whatsoever, who shall go to pay their court to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, shall be admitted into His Majesty's presence, at any of his Royal Palaces.

(Signed) GRAFTON.”

The Prince and Princess of Wales then took refuge in Norfolk House, St. James's-square, where, not even as a military honour, or as the means of safety, a single sentinel was allowed; a measure of severity which gave rise to the following Lines, published in the London Magazine for June, 1739, page 306.

Some I have heard who speak this with rebuke;
 “Guards should attend as well the P—e as D—ke;
 “Guards should protect from insult *Britain's* Heir,
 “Who greatly merits all the nation's care:”

Pleas'd with the honest zeal they thus express,
 I tell them what each Statesman must confess;
 No guard so strong, so noble, e'er can prove,
 As that which F——k has,—*the People's love.*

E. C.

It was in this borrowed mansion, and at the end of seven months' gestation, that His late revered Majesty George the Third first saw the light of heaven, on the morning of Wednesday the 24th of May, 1738, a healthy and fine child: but while it is too probable this labour was accelerated by the previous transactions, it is past the power of man to disprove, that the occasional fits of mental derangement, which, at intervals, afflicted this Monarch, were not also amongst the sad results of those domestic feuds.

The following Lines, on the birth of the Son of His Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales, by Mr. P——, appeared in the London Magazine for 1738, p. 304.

If true, that planets have the happy pow'r
 To mark with blessings some peculiar hour,
 To fix of empires the important doom,
 And in one *moment* glad an *age* to come;
 Oh! be that *star*, that brought the moment on,
 Which gave to *Britain's* hopes a *Frederick's* son,
 Be that, as lov'd by *Britons* for its worth,
 As ever gave their best of Princes birth!
Hence, future times, in Frederick's son shall trace
 His father's virtues, and his mother's grace;
 Firm friend to honour, of a soul approv'd,
 All *good men* loving, by all *good men* lov'd.
Hence, should it be Britannia's future fate,
 To feel one moment *Spain's* oppressive weight,
 Soon shall he bid the British cannon roar,
 In stern revenge soon thunder on her shore;
 His naval cross shall ready honour find,
 Justly superior, wanton in the wind;
 And while his breast with gen'rous rage shall glow,
He, to her cost, shall make *Iberia* know
 That *British* æra she may now disdain,
 For *Britain's* glory gave the scourge of Spain.

This event, that gave universal delight, and which ought to have been the signal of re-union, had not that happy effect; and though, no doubt, the King, Queen, and Royal Family, participated in the general joy it diffused, yet it was incompetent to heal the dissensions which prevailed. Thus inauspicious was the birth of this great and venerated Monarch.

The general joy which this happy event occasioned, was demonstrated by every evidence which a loyal and an affectionate people could express. Among other testimonies, the Lord Mayor of London, and Court of Aldermen, on the 7th of June, waited on the King with the following congratulatory Address:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

The Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the city of London, most humbly entreat Your Majesty's permission to congratulate Your Majesty on the safe delivery of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and the birth of a Prince.

These Your Majesty's most faithful and dutiful subjects, have a great satisfaction on every opportunity of paying their personal duty to Your Majesty; and it gives them the highest joy, when the occasion proceeds from any good attending your Royal Family.

They esteem this addition to it as a very happy event, and one of the many good effects of an alliance formed by Your Majesty's prudence for strengthening the Protestant interest, and for the welfare and prosperity of this nation.

Your Majesty's constant vigilance in promoting these good ends, claims the most dutiful acknowledgments from all Your Majesty's subjects: and your late most gracious assurances of Your Majesty's particular care for the protection of your trading subjects, and the security of their commerce, demand, in a more especial manner, the most grateful return from the citizens of London; and I have the honour to assure Your Majesty, that you may always depend on their most affectionate regard to your royal person, on their utmost endeavours, in their sphere, for the support of Your Majesty's government upon all occasions, and on their hearty wishes to Your Majesty, of a long, an easy, and a happy reign.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

I take very kindly your congratulation on the birth of a Prince, and look upon it as a fresh instance of your duty and affection to me and my Family.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common-Council assembled.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

We Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, in Common-Council assembled, do with hearts full of joy approach your throne, and humbly beg leave to offer our congratulations on the happy increase of your Royal Family by the birth of a Prince, and therein the strengthening and establishing the religious and civil rights of this country, and the liberties of Europe.

We are so sensible of the many blessings of Your Majesty's reign, that from interest as well as duty, we wish it long and prosperous; and, when in course of time this Prince shall come to reign, may he, by the example of his royal predecessors, have learned to rule a free but obedient people, and become the guardian of those liberties, which by their precepts he will have been taught to protect.

We should be wanting in that duty we owe to Your Majesty, if we did not take this opportunity of testifying our joy, and assuring Your Majesty of our fidelity and affection.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

I thank you for your congratulation on this occasion, and for this mark of your duty and affection to me and my family. The city of London may always depend upon my favour and protection.

The Lord Mayor of London, the Aldermen, &c. in eighty-four coaches, on Tuesday the 27th of June, waited, in grand procession, on the Prince and Princess, with the following Address, *viz.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES,

We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Councilmen of the city of London, most humbly beg leave to attend Your

Royal Highnesses, to express our joy on the increase of your Royal Family by the birth of a Prince, and upon the recovery of Her Royal Highness.

May Your Royal Highnesses become the happy parents of a numerous offspring, to be a delight to His Majesty and Your Royal Highnesses, to give joy to His Majesty's subjects, and strengthen every part of our Constitution.

We doubt not but by Your Royal Highnesses' care, this young Prince will be early taught those virtuous maxims, which alone can make a prince and people happy; and that by the example of His Majesty, and Your Royal Highnesses, he will learn, that the glory, as well as security of the Throne, must be founded in the hearts and affections of the People.

To which His Royal Highness returned this answer:

MY LORD, AND GENTLEMEN,

I return you my thanks, and those of the Princess, for this new instance of your duty to the King, and of your affection to me. My son, I hope, may come in time to deserve the gratitude of a free People, which His Majesty now enjoys; and it shall be my constant care to instruct him, that true loyalty can only be the result of liberty.

On Monday the 21st of June, the young Prince was baptized by the Bishop of Oxford, at Norfolk House. The godfathers were the King of Sweden, whose proxy was Lord Baltimore; and the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, whose proxy was the Marquis of Carnarvon. The Queen of Prussia was godmother; the name, George-William-Frederick, was given by Lord Baltimore.

Of the manner in which the first anniversary of our late beloved Monarch was celebrated, and in which he was appointed Colonel of a Lilliputian band, we find in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1739, p. 236, the following account:

"On Thursday the 24th of May, 1739, a prodigious concourse of nobility and gentry assembled at Norfolk House, to congratulate the Prince and Princess of Wales on the anniversary of the birth

of Prince George; sixty youths, under twelve years of age, sons of eminent citizens, having formed themselves into a Lilliputian company of foot-soldiers, were brought, in the true military costume, in hackney-coaches to Norfolk House, when the Prince ordered them to alight, and enter. Accordingly they marched in with drums beating, colours flying, and a full band playing the most celebrated martial airs before them. The Lilliputian corps having been formed into a line in the great hall, were admitted into the drawing-room, and had the honour to kiss the hands of Prince George, then only a year old, Prince Edward, and Princess Augusta. Prince George was equipped *à la militaire*, with a hat and feather. After they had performed their exercise, their captain, Master Warman, humbly requested of His Royal Highness, that Prince George might be their Colonel, which His Royal Highness pleasantly complied with, and the colours were put into the hands of the young Prince; but they not being able to grasp them, he let them fall upon the ground, on which the Prince of Wales returned them to the captain, saying, he hoped when their colonel was a man, he would not desert the standard of his country; and history can tell, that he has fulfilled the hopes of his parent. His Royal Highness ordered the Lilliputian corps to be entertained at the Gloucester Tavern in Pall-Mall, and afterwards to be carefully conducted home to their parents."

For the sake of presenting a clear unbroken narrative of the extraordinary circumstances which occurred in the reigning Family, immediately preceding the birth of George III. the death of Queen Caroline has been passed over. That event took place on the 20th November, 1737. Horace Walpole, with his usual indelicacy, has *babbled* forth the secret of a bodily infirmity with which that excellent Princess was grievously afflicted. In the

vain hope of obtaining relief, she submitted to a surgical operation, bore its excruciating tortures with masculine fortitude, and expired shortly afterwards.

Caroline was, in the liberal sense of the appellation, an exemplary wife, and a respectable lady. She was the constant friend of indigent genius. Her bountiful hand administered to the wants of that indiscreet and unhappy gentleman, Mr. Savage; and if her influence had been more extensive, and her revenue more ample, she would have shone as the British Minerva, and reflected that lustre on the reign of her husband, of which his narrow and contracted mind, and ungraceful taste and habits, forbade the realization. She bore her matrimonial fetters with dignity; neither assailing her Lord with reproaches or complaint. This good and virtuous Queen was not ignorant of the *political* source whence those lamentable feuds were constantly fed; and perceiving that her own degradation and ruin might result from the most distant interference, and having before her eyes a constant memorial of the expediency of *passive obedience* and non-resistance in the fate of the beautiful and unhappy mother of her husband (Sophia-Dorothea), she had prudence to submit, and fortitude to practise that hard lesson, without reflecting discredit upon her royal husband. Queen Caroline was the FRIEND and patron of that accomplished and amiable gentleman, Aaron Hill. In her liberal mind, that eminent and honourable character found a never-failing source of sympathy and condolence. He was also her *favourite bard*; and, in some moment of despondency, wrote the following Lines, the beautiful ideas of which might have been suggested by the magnanimity of suffering displayed by this deservedly beloved and revered Queen:

“ Should I in fruitless agony complain,
Fretting my wound but multiplies my pain:

While they, who patiently embrace distress,
 Teach shame to satisfy, and grief to bless.
 Whate'er HAS BEEN, 'tis madness to regret;
 Whate'er MUST BE, shocks least when braveliest met.
 Learn then, my soul, thy course resign'd to run,
 And never pray *thy* will—but God's—*be done!*"

A grander and more noble view of human suffering, under despotic power, can scarcely be found in the English tongue, than the following:

"Let him whose present fortune gives him pain,
 Scorn the low vulgar custom, to complain:
 All that withholds his wish, the brave will break,
 Or, SILENT, bear those chains 'tis poor to shake."

No doubt whatever dwells in the mind of him who is describing, from the page of history, the character of Queen Caroline, that the discord which dishonoured the Royal Family, had its origin in political transactions and state jealousy; none, that the German favourites, and Sir Robert Walpole, created and fed that schism, which, distracting the King's mind, discapacitated the Sovereign from properly performing the great functions of his office, and banished a Prince whose presence they dreaded.

In his Reminiscences, Horace Walpole has drawn a tolerably candid character of Queen Caroline, both as to her person and endowments. The portraits which yet remain, that were drawn in the early part of her life, prove she was then beautiful. After that inexorable foe to handsome females, the small-pox, had diminished the lustre of her charms, Walpole describes her as being distinguished by a pleasing countenance, full of mildness or majesty, as she pleased; and her penetrating eyes, he affirms, had power to express whatever her mind dictated. Her voice was captivating, and her hands beautifully small, plump, and graceful. *Her understanding was uncommonly strong, and so was her resolution.*

The following anecdote, selected from the pages of Walpole's *Reminiscences*, proves how greatly her *feelings* were tried, although, with that obliquity of mental vision for which the noble author is deservedly celebrated, he perverted the test, and mistook the principal sufferer:

"But from the Queen, she (Lady Suffolk, the wretched mistress to a tasteless King) tasted more positive vexations. Till she became a Countess, she constantly dressed the Queen's head, who delighted in subjecting her to such servile offices, though always apologizing '*to her good Howard.*' Often Her Majesty had more complete triumph. It happened more than once, that the King, coming into the room while the Queen was dressing, *has snatched the handkerchief off* (the Queen), and, turning rudely to Mrs. Howard, has cried, '*Because you have an ugly neck yourself, you hide the Queen's.*'" This conduct, for which it is difficult, without violating decorum, to find terms of reprobation sufficiently strong,—this almost obscene comparison, made with the coarseness of a horse-jockey, between the points of personal attractions of his wife and his mistress, has the *chaste* and *elegant* pen of Horace Walpole called '*a triumph*' for the unhappy Queen! Let the wife of any decent English tradesman bring the case home to her own bosom, and then she will be able to appreciate the *value* of such *triumph*! And what a picture does he hold up of the personal manners and morals of the King! The work ought to have been suppressed. The example of kings is contagious when it points to vice. The noble author has treated the Queen disrespectfully; and he has violated good morals and good manners in recording such matter! What must be thought of his opinion of the '*accomplished ladies*' to whom he narrated these entertaining and *instructive* lessons? Or of that grave and severe moralist, the Editor of the *Quarterly Review*, who, attracted

by a great name, and negligent of every other consideration, has unblushingly pronounced, that '*the author's certainty of success*' with posterity, will rest upon these *unworthy recollections*? To what remote period does he allude? Perhaps to that, when the British sceptre shall no longer be wielded by the Brunswick Line!

"One of the Queen's laudable and innocent delights was, the improvement of the garden at Richmond; and the King believed she paid for all with her own money; nor would he ever *look* at her intended plans, saying, *he did not care how she flung away her revenue*: he little suspected the aids Sir Robert furnished to her from the treasury. When she died, she was indebted twenty thousand pounds to the King."

Relative to the embellishment, after the bad taste which then prevailed, of the royal gardens at Richmond, AARON HILL had the honour of framing designs for cells and grottos, as his letters prove. The pecuniary contributions the Queen derived from *Sir Robert*, cost neither the minister nor the master a farthing: and as the King remained in *ignorance* that his Queen had expended twenty thousand pounds more than her own revenues allowed, *Sir Robert's* power to supply that sum to gratify an honourable wish of the Queen to decorate her residence, proves rather more than the *noble* author intended, and that, if he had pleased, he could have purchased four or five boroughs at the same cost, and put the expense down under the guise of a very different disbursement. In one page, the modest narrator mentions '*Sir Robert*' having '*governed*' the King; and, in the one under review, he *insinuates*, that '*the FATHER of CORRUPTION*,' as '*Sir Robert*' has been styled, could even BRIBE a Queen! Not all the writings of all the anarchists of the age have gone such lengths to degrade and vilify the House of Brunswick, as

Horace Walpole; and the quicker expansion and more wide diffusion of these scandalous anecdotes which will occur, and have already occurred, in consequence of the late King's death, renders these free and heartfelt comments on their base origin and injurious effect, the more needful: for the world at large is too much swayed by great names, and ready to admire and applaud a doggrel composition, in verse or prose, to which the name of a Peer is attached; whilst they would reject with disdain the efforts of modest worth, or the choicest effusions of an obscure genius.

This kind and generous Queen had, in her last moments, a keener pang to bear, than the knife of the surgeon ever inflicted. She was debarred, by considerations that ought not *then* to have influenced her conduct, (for death—immediate death was at hand,) in complying with the stern and unrelenting commands of her husband, and declining to allow her imploring and supplicating son to approach her. This was morally wrong; and it would neutralize the value of every word of praise applied to this Queen in these sentences, if her error were allowed to pass unnoticed. It is evident, that the unhappy mother died, without receiving the last solemn rite administered to the living, whilst the fluttering soul is almost on the wing; and it is natural to suppose, that this last horrible privation imbittered the agonies of death. This submissive demeanour, Horace Walpole describes as another *triumph*,—as an infallible token of *heroical devotion* to the unhallowed resentment of an unrelenting husband and a merciless father. But it is within the pale of probability, that the Queen died, unknowing of the efforts made by her son Frederick to gain admission, and the exquisite pain the stern denial gave his heart.

This Queen is still deserving all the homage a candid biographer can bestow. Her name has

been rendered imperishable by the works of the poets and authors which she patronized; and her name, CAROLINE, was conferred on two uncultivated provinces of North America, which, advancing with rapid strides to the attainment of historical ground, may still preserve her memory, when not a stone of St. Peter's or St. Paul's cathedrals shall remain one upon another.* She was not so splendid a character as Queen Elizabeth, only because her power was less: but Caroline was the more amiable; and for conjugal virtue, and devotion to her husband, worthy of a rank in English history equal to the heroic wife of the THIRD Edward, or the THIRD George.

The incidents connected with the Royal Infant are not of a nature worthy of being recorded; his fond parents carried their future heir, and England's future King, from one watering-place to another, and every where the royal party met with the same bustling and troublesome, though flattering, reception, and a routine of addresses, that must have felt somewhat cloying from their *excessive* sweetness. When the ponderous ceremony of civic adulation was over, and the Prince and Princess were unrestrained by the presence of strangers, they had probably many a high-seasoned laugh at the grotesque formality, and bursting importance, of the many municipal performers in those provincial pantomimes, which, in nine cases out of ten, merit no better appellation. Passing over these puerile matters, the Editor prefers giving, from the best contemporaneous publications, such occasional unvarnished extracts, as shall convey a

* Anxious to preserve his pages for essential narrative, the Editor has reserved all the swelling pomp of funereal ceremonies for the Appendix, where those of Queen Caroline will be placed. A mode of arrangement which he hopes will meet the general approbation.

strong illustration of *the times*, till the royal babe attained that age, when historical notice may, with more strict propriety, be resumed and continued.

The London Magazine of 1738 presents, in rapid succession, the following anomalous articles, *viz.*

“On Wednesday 24th May, Prince George, afterwards George III. was born.”

“Friday, the 26th May.—The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, with several Aldermen and the Sheriffs, waited on His Majesty at Kensington, with their congratulations on the birth of a Prince; just after eight wretched beings, *viz.* John Margets, W. Ifield, John Toon, Edward Blastock, Joseph Golding, W. Lawrence, W. Tinman, and Philip Murray, had been executed at Tyburn.”

In the year 1741, are two other articles, of the same sad description, on record, *viz.*

“Wednesday.—The following TWENTY malefactors were executed at Tyburn.” [*Without a single word of comment.*]

“Friday.—A chapter of the most noble order of the Garter was held at St. James’s.”

Executions of criminals at Tyburn were, about this period, so frequent, and the sacrifices so numerous, as to lose all effect as examples at home, whilst it entailed the severest satires and keenest reproaches from foreign pens. A small book, containing instructions for foreigners in acquiring the English tongue, was printed at Amsterdam about this period; wherein the author, a Hollander, gravely asserted, that *hanging* was not deemed disgraceful in England: on the contrary, that the friends and relatives of the criminal decked his bosom with a fine nosegay as he set off in the cart to the place of execution, and placed an orange in his hand; that they followed the cart in procession singing psalms, in chorus; that when he was turned off, his nearest relations took hold of his legs, to terminate his sufferings the quicker; that after the

hour allotted by law was expired, they received the corpse, and bore it off in triumph, generally terminating the catastrophe by a feast, an intoxication, and a boxing match. Such are the ideas which the exorbitant waste of human life, through the sanguinary spirit of our penal laws, and the consequent frequency of executions, have excited.

The present enlightened age forbids this practice to any thing like its former extent; but still the *law* remains unrepealed: that its effects are less horrible, is owing to royal clemency, and public indignation.

The principal domestic feature of the second year of our late Sovereign's life, was the birth of his brother Prince Edward. A complimentary address was delivered to the Prince and Princess on the occasion.

To the congratulatory address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London, on account of Prince *Edward's* birth, presented on this day, April 18, 1739, to their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of Wales replied:

“MY LORD, AND GENTLEMEN,

“I and the Princess are very thankful for this new instance of your duty to the King, and of your regard to us. My children will, I hope, one day, deserve a share of that affection you always have shewn to the Family; and it shall be my care early to instil into them a love for the laws and liberties of that country they have the happiness to be born in. The City may always depend on my good wishes for its prosperity, and the welfare of its trade.”

Specimen and Complexion of the Times.

Friday evening, 1st of August, the Masque of Alfred, written by Mr. Thomson, was performed at Cliefden, in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all their Court, in commemoration of the anniversary of the accession of

George I. and of the birth-day of the Princess Augusta, (mother to the reigning Queen.)—*London Mag. Aug. 1740.*

In the same work, p. 393, is an article signed Philomathes, containing many judicious reflections upon this celebrated Masque, which assuredly displays the true ENGLISH* spirit of the great bard. Whatever may have been the real sentiments of the Prince his patron, the interest it excited in the nation, proves how deeply the same principles of love and veneration for our free institutions were engraven on the hearts of the people.

“May that spirit ever prevail,” said this writer; “may just heaven forbid

“A British man should ever count for gain

“What villany must earn.”

A *Prince of Wales* pleasing himself with such a representation, is a sort of pledge that he will join sincerely in Alfred's prayer; and that, endeavouring to build the public weal on *liberty and law*, he will disdain to think of establishing his throne upon the *tongues* or *swords* of those who court for gain, what they villanously earn by sacrificing the *constitution* and liberties of their country.

Eight Objections to the Place Bill.

Common Sense, Aug. 16. No. 184.

1. “Are gentlemen less capable or less worthy to serve the people, because they are entrusted by some place or preferment with the more immediate service of the King?”

* The term *English* applies to the Scotch, in every proper sense, more fully than to those called English by ancient custom; and more so, in proportion as the *North Britons*, as they are called by act-of-parliament declaration, bear on their features, complexions, language, pronounciation, laws, and customs, a much more striking affinity to their Anglo-Saxon ancestry, than the *South Britons*.

2. "We (the nation) shall condemn ourselves by passing such an act."

3. "There are not so many placemen as the world imagines."

4. "This bill takes its origin from seditious instructions."

5. "To desire the *abolition* rather than the continuance of parliament, if placemen sit in it, must be imputed to an incautious zeal."

6. "This bill is of dangerous consequence, because it separates the interests of the King and People."

7. "What is the reason that this bill is so much insisted upon now? Is any thing apprehended from His Majesty, that makes it necessary, and, as such, urged with so much vehemence?"

8. "This is a scheme of the gentlemen in the Opposition, to supplant the present Ministers."

Objections to Repealing the Triennial Act.

"According to the best judgment that can be formed, if the Bill for Repealing the Triennial Act should pass into a law, the world will think we (the Parliament) are guilty of a most notorious breach of trust in us, by those who sent us here; and we are going to make a dangerous step towards undermining the Constitution: and therefore, if we did believe it would be conducive to several good ends, that ought not to be sufficient to gain our consent hereafter; for those ends, however desirable, cannot be an equivalent to such a price as giving up, or making a dangerous step towards entirely giving up, the British Constitution."—*London Mag.* Feb. 1740.

It is necessary to shew both sides of all questions, to give a correct view of the spirit of the times.

On seeing His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales at Brownsey.

Surpris'd, O Frederick, I stood,
When first thy manly form I view'd;
Intent on thee, and pleas'd to trace
The beauties of thy mind and face,
I quit my Sophia's much-lov'd side,
And urge the vessel thro' the tide.

Hail to my country's future King!
For thee I lift my voice to sing:
O born to bless the British isle!—
Wide o'er the world in daring lays
The grateful Muse shall spread thy praise;
Shall teach mankind to bow the knee,
And pay the homage due to thee.

POOL.

H. PRICE.

Lond. Mag. 1741.

The reason why these lines are selected for insertion, is not to be sought after either in the elegance of the language, the beauty of thought, or their grammatical accuracy; but to shew that there *were* persons who loved the Prince, although a *German born*, and were not afraid or ashamed to own their affection, or hand it down to posterity. This furnishes a strong proof, that His Royal Highness was not the worthless being he is depicted by the pen of Horace Walpole.

Extracts from the London Magazine for February, 1742.

“This month began with a most remarkable affair, *viz.* a change in the ministry. Things have been coming apace towards a crisis ever since the meeting of the new Parliament.”

“Monday, February 1.—His Serene Highness

the Duke of Saxe-Gotha,* brother to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, who came over to England the latter end of last month,† was this day introduced to His Majesty, and graciously received. He had been before at Carlton House with their Royal Highnesses, where was a great Court to compliment him on his safe arrival."

"Tuesday, 2.—When the M——r found he lost the majority, he is said to have declared, that he would give the House no further trouble, nor return to it again. On which occasion the following appeared in the papers, *viz.*

"Endingburgh, Jan. 28th.—The following is taken from a volume of essays *lately published here:*

"There never was a man whose actions and character have been more earnestly and openly canvassed, than those of the present M——r, who, having governed a learned and free nation for so long a time, amidst such mighty opposition, may make a large library of what has been written for and against him, and is the subject of above half the paper that has been blotted in this nation within these twenty years. I wish, for the honour of our country, that any one character of him had been drawn with such *judgment* and *impartiality*, as to have some credit with posterity, and shew that our liberty has, once at least, been employed to good purpose. I am only afraid of failing in the former quality of judgment: but if it should be so, it is but one page more thrown away, after a hundred thousand on the same subject, that have perished and become useless. In the mean time, I shall flatter myself with the pleasing imagination,

* For a masterly description of Saxe-Gotha palaces and cabinets, at this period, see Keyser's *Travels in Germany*.

† The Princess had just completed her 24th year.

that the following character will be adopted by the future historian :

“Sir R—— W——, p—me m——r of Great Britain, is a man of ability, not of genius; good-natured, not virtuous; constant, not magnanimous; moderate, not equitable. [Moderate in the exercise of power, not equitable in engrossing it.] His virtues, in some instances, are free from the alloy of those vices which usually accompany such virtues. He is a generous friend, without being a bitter enemy. His vices, in other instances, are not compensated by those virtues which are nearly allied to them. His want of enterprise is not attended with frugality. The private character of the man is not better than the public : his virtues are more than his vices ; his fortune greater than his fame. With many good qualities, he has incurred the public hatred : with a good capacity, he has not escaped ridicule. He would have been esteemed worthy his high station, had he never possessed it ; and is better qualified for the second, than the first place, in any government. His ministry has been more advantageous to his family than to the public ; better for his age, than for posterity ; and more pernicious by bad precedents, than by real grievances. During his time, *trade* has flourished, liberty declined,* and learning gone to ruin. As I am a man, I love him ; as I am a scholar, I hate

* About this period, a small volume (duodecimo) was published at Stockholm, from which, in the Appendix, the Editor may possibly give some extracts ; wherein the author asserted, that the decline of liberty in England, from the system of parliamentary corruption, and the oppressive nature of the Excise laws, would gradually become despotic ; and the House of Commons grow so odious to the nation, that, to be revenged, the enslaved people would rejoice in its extinction. “Whenever that period shall arrive,” said the writer, “England will become the most wretched of nations ; hated and despised by their neighbours on account of former insolence and present degeneracy, they will exist an awful monument of the sad effects of corruption ; and their abject con-

him; as I am a Briton, I wish his fall; and were I a member of either House, I would give my vote for removing him from St. James's; but should be glad to see him retire to H—— Hall, to pass the remainder of his days in ease and pleasure."

"Wednesday, 3d.—His Majesty went to the House of Peers, and passed the malt bill, &c. after which the Lord Chancellor, by His Majesty's command, signified to the Parliament, that it was His Majesty's pleasure they should adjourn to the 18th instant, and accordingly both Houses adjourned to that day."

"Tuesday, 9th.—The following was published by authority, *viz.*

"The King has been pleased to grant unto the Right Hon. Sir Robert Walpole, Knight of the most noble order of the Garter, the dignities of a Baron, Viscount, and Earl of the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, by the name, style, and title of Baron of *Houghton*, in the County of *Norfolk*, Viscount *Walpole*, and Earl of Orford, in the County of Suffolk.

"The King has been pleased to signify his pleasure, by warrant to the Right Hon. Francis Earl of Effingham, Deputy to his Grace Edward Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and Hereditary Earl Marshal of England, that *Mrs. Maria Walpole* shall have and enjoy the same place, pre-eminence, and precedence, in all assemblies and meetings whatsoever, as the daughter of an Earl of the Kingdom of Great Britain."

"Wednesday, 10th.—Was held a Court of Common Council at Guildhall, when a motion was made, that a Committee should be appointed to draw up instructions for the representatives of this city in Parliament, on the present critical juncture of affairs; which was unanimously agreed to, and instructions were drawn up, and ordered to be delivered to the members accordingly."

dition will be imbittered by the recollection of their ancient freedom, and the great and daring deeds of their ancestors." This work was printed partly in English, partly Swedish.—ED.

The Representation of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common-Council assembled, to the Right Hon. Sir Robert Godschall, Knt. Lord Mayor, Sir John Barnard, Knt. Mr. Ald. Lambert, and Mr. Ald. Heathcote, their Representatives in Parliament.

This Court doth take this public occasion to acknowledge their grateful sense of your vigilant and faithful conduct in Parliament, which hath already contributed to the production of many good effects.

As they have now reason to hope for a change of measures, as well as of men, they desire you will strenuously promote all such salutary laws, as are or shall be proposed in the House of Commons, such as the *Place Bill*, a *Pension Bill*, and the repeal of the *Septennial Act*, in order to restore the ancient freedom of our Constitution, and secure it against all future attempts, either of open or secret corruption, or of any undue influence whatsoever.

And more particularly they recommend, that you will persist, with unwearied diligence, to make the earliest and strictest inquiry into the causes of all past mismanagements, and exert your utmost endeavours to prevent the like for the future.

And they further expect, that you will extend such inquiry to all persons, who, in their respective employments, have contributed to the complicated evils, which have so long oppressed and dishonoured this nation.

And they congratulate themselves and the whole kingdom, that from the virtue and spirit of the present Parliament, every odious name and distinction will soon be lost among us, and that from this happy period they may date the entire abolition of parties, of which the most pernicious use has hitherto been made, to the imminent danger of our liberties.

For now they may reasonably expect, that those who wish the real and solid support of His Majesty and his Royal Family, and are qualified by their virtues and abilities, may have it in their power to serve both their King and Country, and that no distinction will remain, but of those who are friends or enemies to the Constitution; of those who would maintain the freedom and independency of Parliament, and of those who would subject it to *corrupt* and *ministerial influence*.

Nor was the spirit which breathes in the preceding document confined to those by whom it was written. The same disposition is equally conspicuous in the following article:

The Representation of the City and Liberty of Westminster, to the Right Hon. the Lord Viscount Perceval, and Charles Edwin, Esq.

We, the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the city and liberty of Westminster, cannot avoid taking the first opportunity of paying our most grateful acknowledgments for your faithful behaviour during this short, but important period of Parliament; and though we have no reason to doubt your steady perseverance, yet we cannot think it altogether improper to acquaint you with our sentiments on the present crisis of affairs;—a crisis which we apprehended must determine the fate of us and our posterity, and render this kingdom either a glory or scoff among the nations.

We have beheld, with the deepest concern, such measures pursued for many years past, as have manifestly tended to disgrace the name, betray the interests, ruin the trade, weaken the liberties, and depress the courage of the British nation. It is now with the most sensible pleasure we behold the agreeable prospect of being delivered from the fatal effects of such measures, by the virtue of a truly *British* Parliament, and the removal of those persons, who, supported by the influence of corruption, (that canker of our Constitution,) have too long wantoned in the abuse of power, and mocked the calamities of an almost despairing people.

But, as the melancholy experience of past times evinces, that the removal of the person of a Minister from the helm, is insufficient for securing the interests and liberties of a people, while his creatures, his maxims, and his views, are entailed upon the government; we therefore hope you will most strenuously oppose them, and endeavour to procure us such a constitutional security, as may prevent this kingdom from suffering by the like errors or iniquities for the future.

As the strictest inquiry only can satisfy, so nothing but the most rigorous justice ought to avenge, an injured People; it is therefore we earnestly entreat you to make a diligent scrutiny into the authors of those grievances we have so long groaned under, and not suffer impunity to be the lot of the oppressor. Justice is a duty you owe to posterity, as examples are most likely to prevent future evils. Should the disturber of the public be permitted the enjoyment of private tranquillity, or his influence remain in those councils from which his person is removed, we conceive that such an event, at this juncture, must give a fatal encouragement, or rather sanction, to a wanton and wicked exercise of power in all

succeeding ministers : lenity to such a one would be cruelty to the nation ; and the calling to a severe account the instruments of pernicious measures, however unavailing to procure us reparation for what is past, may have the happy effect of henceforth preventing the like violations of the Constitution, the like profusion of public treasure at home, and the like prostitution of the public faith and honour abroad.

We zealously recommend to your endeavours the extirpating those party distinctions, which, though their foundation have long ceased to exist, were yet so industriously fomented among us, in order to serve the mischievous purposes of a ministerial tyranny, and in opposition to the real and permanent interests of the present Royal Family. The common interest, it is hoped, has now united all parties and persuasions, and every man will be regarded only as he prefers the welfare and liberties of his country to any private dependence or venal consideration whatever.

“ Thursday, 11.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Orford went to Court, and resigned all his employments ; after which he set out for Richmond Park, in Surry. See the alterations in the ministry on this occasion in the promotions.”

“ Friday, 12.—There was a great meeting of noblemen and gentlemen, to the number of 300, at the Fountain Tavern, in the Strand, to consider of what was expedient to be done in the present critical conjuncture. Among others were the following :

“ **DUKES** of Bedford and Argyle ; **MARQUIS** of Carnarvon ; **EARLS** of Exeter, Berkshire, Chesterfield, Carlisle, Aylesbury, Shaftsbury, Litchfield, Oxford, Rockingham, Halifax, Stanhope, Macclesfield, Darnley, Barrimore, Granard ; **VISCOUNTS** Cobham, Falmouth, Limerick, Gage, Chetwynd ; **LORDS** Ward, Gower, Bathurst, Talbot, Strange, Andover, Guernsey, Quarendon, Perceval ; **SIRS** Edward Seymour, Charles Mordaunt, Erasmus Philips, Robert Grosvenor, Edward Dering, Roger Burgoyne, John Hind Cotton, Henry Northcote, William Carew, Miles Stapylton, Hugh Smithson, William Morris, John Rushout, Michael Newton,

Roger Twisden, Robert Long, Charles Windham, Jermyn Davers, James Dashwood, Watkyn Williams Wynne, Cordel Firebrace, Edward Thomas, Francis Dashwood, Jacob Bouverie, John Chapman, Abraham Elton, John Peachy, William Courteney, James Hamilton; MESSRS. Pulteney, Sandys, Gybbon, Doddington, Waller, Shippen, Fazakerley, Mellish, Ald. Heathcote, Bance."

"Wednesday, 17.—At a general meeting of the independent electors of the city and liberty of Westminster, at the Fountain Tavern, in the Strand, it was unanimously agreed, that a representation be delivered to their members."

As the first happy effect of the change in the ministry, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on this day waited upon His Majesty at St. James's, and was received in the most gracious and affectionate manner; on which occasion, there was a very splendid appearance at court of the nobility, foreign ministers, and others persons of distinction: and in the evening there were bonfires, illuminations, and other public demonstrations of joy: and a guard was immediately ordered to attend His Royal Highness at Carlton House.

"A list of some of the lords, &c. who had not been lately at St. James's, and waited on His Majesty the day after His Royal Highness had been there; the whole number being above 250:

"DUKES of Beaufort, Bedford, Argyle, Bridgewater, Roxburgh; MARQUIS of Carnarvon; EARLS of Derby, Denbigh, Westmoreland, Winchelsea, Thanet, Sandwich, Carlisle, Aylesbury, Litchfield, Scarborough, Coventry, Oxford, Aylesford, Halifax, Macclesfield, Darnley, Barrimore, Inchiquin, Granard; VISCOUNTS Hereford, Cobham, Chetwynd, Barrington, Gage, Strange, Quarendon, Guernsey; LORDS Clinton, Ward, Guildford, Haversham, Gower, Mansell, Barhurst, Talbot, Baltimore, Lord Mayor, &c.; SIRs Michael Newton,

Watkyn Williams Wynue, John Hind Cotton, Robert Long, Francis Dashwood, Edward Dering, Roger Burgoyne, Edmund Thomas, Hugh Smithson, John Barrington, James Dashwood, John Chapman, John Bruce; MESSRS. Pulteney, Vane, Doddington, Fazakerley, Bootle, Berkeley, Levi-son Gower, Gore, Watson, Grenville, Nugent, Boone, Waller, Buchanan, Rose, &c. &c."

"Thursday, 18.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Orford took the oaths, and his seat in the House of Peers. Great rejoicings were made in divers places, on account of the late change, as at Edinburgh, Halifax, Preston," &c.

"Thursday, January 20, 1743.—The anniversary of the birth of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was celebrated, when His Royal Highness entered into the 37th year of his age."

"Monday, November 14.—This morning, about eight o'clock, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a Prince at Leicester House."

"December.—The young Prince, son to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, was christened by the name of William-Henry. The Prince of Orange, the Duke of Cumberland, and the Princess Amelia, being sponsors."

The principal connection which the following lines have with the subject of this Memoir, is to mark the prejudice that prevailed against the Scots in 1743.

THE DESERTING HIGHLANDERS.

Away, false *northern kerns*; well you deserve
The greatest punishment, at *home* to starve.
'Midst barren rocks and dreary mountains nurs'd,
They think themselves in southern air accurs'd.
Unus'd to sun-shine, their cold *oatmeal* blood
Loaths our good beef and pudding, English food;
From clothes, and *briggs*, and *sil'er*, *bonny* pay,
Sil'er a strange new sight, they run away:

Except in ruthless skies no joys they feel,
 And one and all 'gainst happiness rebel.
 Thus when wise *Moses*, by divine command,
 Led forth God's people to the promis'd land,
 The *leprous* tribes, with *quails* and *manna* fed
 By Heaven's own hand, loath'd their celestial bread,
 Long'd for their chains and garlic once again,
 And would have render'd all their blessings vain.
 Surely the land where milk and honey flow'd,
 On thankless Israelites was ill bestow'd.

Lond. Mag. June, 1743.

AN ODE

On the Birth-day of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

BY MR. VICTOR.

Let the soft, captivating strains
 Of swelling harmony begin :
 In tuneful numbers, let the swains
 The Prince's wish'd attention win ;
 Augusta, pleas'd, will listen to the lay,
 That welcomes in her Consort's natal day.

Great day of hope! O Prince renown'd!
 Belov'd—with ev'ry virtue crown'd!
 Whose royal name
 Disdains the trappings of fictitious fame!
Fred'rick! the praise is just, tho' unconfin'd,
 That displays thy copious mind,
 Ever bounteous, ever kind,
 Enrich'd with merit in thy earliest youth,
 Friend to the friends of liberty and truth!
 The social titles all are thine,
 They make the great illustrious shine!
 The Muse can with delight commend
 The *Husband!* *Father!* and the *Friend!*

Ne'er shall corroding cares your breast intrude ;
 For such can no admission find
 Within the bright, unblemish'd mind,
 That knows the joys of heav'nly solitude :
 There happy, free from public strife,
 You taste the sweets of private life ;

Blest with a *noble, blooming race*,
 With whom our *hopes* and *joys* increase !
 Future sceptres they shall wield !
 Shine in courts ! and grasp the shield !

Kings, like their *grandsire*, good and great !
 Well taught to rule where freedom reigns !
 Shall crush th' oppressor on his seat,
 And bind fierce tyranny in chains !

Lond. Mag. Jan. 1744.

“ January 20, 1745.—The anniversary of the birth of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was celebrated, when His Royal Highness entered into the 39th year of his age.”

“ October 27.—Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a Prince.”

“ November 27.—The Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen went in procession to Leicester House, to congratulate their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on the birth of a Prince, who, it was said, had been privately baptized by the name of Henry-Frederick : the King of Denmark, the Prince of Orange, and the Princess of Hesse, being sponsors ; by their proxies the Dukes of Queensbury and Chardos, and the Lady Viscountess Torrington.”

The following petitionary Threat issued by Charles Stewart, generally known by the name of “ The Pretender,” is a document sufficiently curious to be thought worth preserving :

Charles Prince of Wales, Regent of the Kingdoms of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

Being come to recover the King our father's just rights, for which we are arrived with all his authority, we are sorry to find that you should prepare to obstruct our passage : we, therefore, to avoid the effusion of *English* blood, hereby require you to open your gates, and let us enter, as we desire, in a peaceable manner ; which if you do, we shall

take care to preserve you from any insult, and set an example to all *England* of the exactness with which we intend to fulfil the King our father's declarations and our own: but if you shall refuse us entrance, we are fully resolved to force it by such means as Providence has put into our hands; and then it will not, perhaps, be in our power to prevent the fatal consequences which usually attend a town's being taken by assault. Consider seriously of this, and let me have your answer within the space of two hours; for we shall take any farther delay as a peremptory refusal, and take our measures accordingly.

Nov. 10, 1745. Two in the afternoon.

For the Mayor of Carlisle.

The principal events connected with the infancy of George III. in the year 1747, exist in the following Address from the Sons of the Clergy, and an interview between THOMSON the Poet and the young Prince, at Kew Palace.

Prince George and Prince Edward having been at the Rehearsal for the Feast of the Sons of the Clergy, the next day after the Feast, May 8th, the Stewards waited on His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with the following Address of Thanks.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

The Stewards of the Sons of the Clergy most humbly beg leave to return thanks to your Royal Highness, not only for themselves, but in the name of the whole body of the Clergy, for the great honour you have done them, in sending the young Princes to the Anniversary Meeting for the relief of poor Clergymen's children, and likewise for the most generous benefaction* you were most graciously pleased to bestow upon them.

The presence of two such amiable Princes was, indeed, of the highest advantage to the Charity; it brought together the greatest number of people of every rank, to admire and to pray for them. And the pleasing prospect both to themselves and their posterity, so opened and enlarged their hearts, that it produced the largest contribution that was ever yet made upon the like occasion.

* A £100 Bank Bill.

It is with the greatest satisfaction we reflect, that, as the Clergy of this nation have lately shewn the most commendable zeal in the defence of His Most Sacred Majesty and his Royal Family, against the enemies of our liberties and religion, so Your Royal Highness has taken this opportunity of shewing your regard to the whole body of the Clergy, and your most generous compassion to the indigent and distressed part of them.

For this instance of Your Royal Highness's pious beneficence, the prayers of the Clergy, and the blessings of the Poor, are for ever due to you; and we beg Your Royal Highness to believe, that every seminary of piety and learning, as well as every order and degree in the Church, must think themselves most highly obliged to you for this mark of your Royal Highness's kindness and condescension to them.

To which His Royal Highness was graciously pleased to make the following Answer:

I am glad to have had an opportunity to convince the Clergy of the high regard I have for them; and that it shall be the study of my life to imprint the same sentiments on my Children.

It was during this year that one of the greatest poets that this island ever produced, JAMES THOMSON, the author of *The Seasons*, and various other standard poems, was, by his royal friend and patron the Prince of Wales, introduced to the Princess and the royal progeny. The Prince of Wales, taking his eldest son by the hand, then in the ninth year of his age, led him towards Thomson, and said, "This boy is so backward in his learning, and has so strong an aversion to books, that I am afraid, if his disposition does not change, it will be impossible to make him a scholar." Thomson, who was respectful without servility, and affectionate without adulation, received the hand of Prince George, which he kissed with ardour; and then, looking him in the face, said in reply, "I believe, Sir, I need not repeat to what cause, next to Yours

and your Princess's condescension, I am indebted for this high honour. Long after I had passed the age of Prince George, I entertained so strong an antipathy to my book, that every body prophesied I should grow up a mere dolt. I ran home from Jedburgh school, and told my father I could learn much better at home. I preferred the liberty of roaming about, and ruminating on whatever fixed my attention in the neighbouring heaths and fields, to learning. I even ran back home from the high school at Edinburgh, and was sent back as a prisoner. Yet Your Highness has been pleased to think I did not prove a dunce. Some children's intellects expand slowly; mine did: and I doubt not but this young Prince will, in due season, become all your fondest wishes can hope." The young Prince, who was naturally reserved, coloured and looked confused as his Father led him to the bard; but the gentleness of his manner, his soothing words, and, above all, his ready admission that a gentleman whom he had so often heard commended for his taste and learning, was not, at his age, so good a scholar as himself, restored his confidence; and he cast a look full of exultation as he retired to the sofa where the Princess was sitting. This anecdote has been preserved by an old Scotch gardener, who, working in the royal gardens at Kew, derived his information from a brother of the Poet's, who was also a gardener; and it is fully corroborated, as far as regards Thomson's aversion to learning: and his truant tricks in quitting, *without leave*, the grammar school at Jedburgh, and the University of Edinburgh, are facts well known to the Earl of Buchan, and many other of his fashionable votaries, who dwell on the banks of his favourite Tweed.

CHAPTER IV.

Death of James Thomson.—Strictures on the Leicester House Theatricals.—On the King's Juvenile Capacity.—Two unhappy Bards: their Address to Prince GEORGE, and the Duchess of Queensbury.—Strictures on the Penal Statutes.—The Royal Family.—London Address.—The Prince's Reply.—Royal Tour.—Prince GEORGE made a Knight of the Garter.—Sketches of the Times.—Earthquakes.—Prophets.—Crimes, Punishment, and Gin-drinking.—Illness and Death of Frederick Prince of Wales, &c.

OF the events of this year, 1748, except the usual recurrence of birth-days, there are none that the Editor thought worth selection. It was, however, rendered memorable by the death of that great poet and accomplished scholar, JAMES THOMSON, author of *The Seasons*, *The Castle of Indolence*, *Liberty*, and various other poetical works. Further notice of this illustrious bard, and of the efforts of the Earl of Buchan to honour his memory, will appear in the later epochs of the Life of George the Third.

“Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1749.—This day the young Princes and Princesses, sons and daughters to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and several young persons of distinction, played the tragedy of Cato, before a great number of persons of quality, &c. at Leicester House; as they did also the next day.”—*Lond. Mag.*

The exulting tone in which that great actor and master of the art of elocution, Mr. Quin, exclaimed, "*I taught the boy to read,*" just after having heard his pupil, then George III. deliver his maiden speech to the House of Lords, proves how pleased he was with the King's utterance of the Minister's speech; and goes far towards contradicting the reports so commonly credited, that the King, at no period of his life, ever evinced any quality resembling refined taste or native genius. It also justifies the opinion so confidently expressed by Thomson, that Prince George was not deficient in capacity, and also that his intellects would expand as his age increased.

The fact of the young Prince having had sufficient nerve to undertake a part in Cato, whilst six young gentlemen, Eton scholars, nearly of his own age, appeared in the same piece, amounts to strong, if not to conclusive, proof of increasing firmness and self-command; and although it does not remove the belief that he was, and for years afterwards continued to be, "*a shy, reserved boy,*" it leaves no room for a belief, that his appearance bespoke dullness, or his manners a want of ease or polish. The late King of Sweden, Gustavus IV. Adolphus, was *tortured*, as it were, by innumerable masters, to infuse into the unhappy subject of a royal projector all manner of accomplishments. And what was the result? The reverend Mr. Coxe, who had a wonderful knack of discovering occult virtues in royal or imperial hosts and patrons, in his valuable journal of his Northern Travels, has stated, that at eight years of age that Prince was so advanced, that he was able to deliver, with proper grace and emphasis, a formal speech to foreign ministers, in the presence of the King and all his court. And it is notorious, that before he was a man, he became in a manner stultified, and in manners, if not a clown, at least rude and unpleasing; and by the

time he was thirty years, he beat his Queen, lost his crown, and became the scorn and laughing-stock of his once adoring courtiers. Gustavus III. even wrote dramatic pieces himself, in which his protégé performed; and the Prince himself kept, or some one kept for him, a diary, during his father's absence: yet, how far, how infinitely superior, was the manly unassuming character of George III. It happens with kings, as with plebeians: in some cases the most perfect education cannot confer grace, wit, or learning; in others, self-taught men acquire more than the greatest care can bestow. It is extremely probable, as Gustaf Adolf, father to Gustavus III. was godfather to Prince George, that Gustavus adopted the dramatical part of his *adopted* son's education, as he unquestionably did the manly language which marked his speech to the Diet in 1778, from that delivered on his accession to the throne of George III. in 1760. To return from this digression, to the royal drama of 1749.—

It is probable that Mr. Quin might have been consulted as to the cast of the parts; but there were other, and higher *prompters*, who decided the choice of the piece, which was the worst possible to shew ordinary talents to superior advantage: but the true *object* is explained in the prologue and epilogue; it was avowedly *political*. Gustavus made the same professions of an intense love of liberty; and he put the same words into the mouth of his successor, who became coarse, rude, and despotic. In every respect, in every act of his future life, the subject of these Memoirs set a better example, and acted a nobler part, than those royal Swedish imitators, who in vain aspired to those honours which adorned our late beloved Sovereign.

In the Leicester House theatricals, the complimentary verses in the prologue and epilogue are so

lame and defective, that it was in some measure fortunate for Thomson's reputation, that he was no longer liable to the imputation of being their author. Those of the Address to Prince George, spoken by Master Nugent in the character of Cato, were of a superior character, and not unworthy being spoken in the exalted circle so near the throne of Britain. It is barely possible they were written by the same poet. However palpable the object sought by these popular selections, such as *Alfred* and *Cato*, it was still a wise and judicious course of policy, calculated to strengthen the throne, by proving that the Heir apparent did not aspire to the sceptre of his ancestors, on the exploded ground of right divine, and in contempt of the will of the people.

When His late Majesty was in his eleventh year, a copy of Addison's CATO was presented, most magnificently bound; and also the following Lines, selected from the poet's Address to Queen Caroline, which Addison sent, together with his tragedy, to that his illustrious patroness, *viz.*

“Thou too, the darling of our fond desires,
Whom Albion, op'ning wide her arms, requires,
With manly valour, and attractive air,
Shalt quell the fierce, and captivate the fair.
O England's younger hope! in whom conspire
The Mother's sweetness, and the Father's fire!
For thee, perhaps, e'en now, of kingly race,
Some dawning beauty blooms in ev'ry grace,
Some Carolina, to Heav'n's dictates true,
Who, while the sceptred rivals vainly sue,*
Thy inborn worth with conscious eyes shall see,
And slight th' imperial diadem for thee.”

* The Queen Caroline is said to have rejected an imperial suitor, to preserve her religion. Keyser mentions a lady of the House of Brunswick, who renounced her religion to gain that connection.

The parts, in CATO, were thus cast, viz.

PORTIUS	Prince George.
JUBA	Prince Edward.
CATO	Master Nugent.
SEMPRONIUS	Master Evelyn.
LUCIUS	Master Montague.
DECIUS	Lord Milsington.
SYPHAX	Lord North's Son.
MARCUS	Master Maddon.
MARCIA	Lady Augusta.
LUCIA	Lady Elizabeth.

The following Prologue was spoken by Prince George :

“ To speak with freedom, dignity, and ease,
To learn those arts which may hereafter please;
Wise authors say—let youth in earliest age,
Rehearse the poet's labours on the stage.
Nay more ; a nobler end is still behind,
The poet's labours elevate the mind ;
Teach our young hearts with gen'rous fire to burn,
And feel the virtuous sentiments we learn.

“ T' attain these glorious ends, what play so fit,
As that, where all the pow'rs of human wit
Combine, to dignify great Cato's name,
To deck his tomb, and consecrate his fame ;
Where liberty—O name for ever dear !
Breathes forth in ev'ry line, and bids us fear
Nor pains, nor death, to guard our sacred laws,
But bravely perish in our country's cause :
Patriots indeed ! worthy that honest name,
Thro' ev'ry time and station still the same.
Should this superior to my years be thought,
KNOW, 'TIS THE FIRST GREAT LESSON I WAS TAUGHT.
What though a boy, it may with pride be said—
A boy in England born, in England bred :
Where freedom well becomes the earliest state,
For there the love of liberty's innate.
Yet more—before my eyes those heroes stand,
Whom the great William brought to bless this land ;
To guard with pious care, that gen'rous plan,
Of pow'r well bounded—which he first began.

But while my great forefathers fire my mind,
The friends, the joy, the glory of mankind;
Can I forget, that there is one more dear?
But he is present—and I must forbear.

The Epilogue was spoken by Princess Augusta
and Prince Edward.

PRINCESS AUGUSTA.

The Prologue's fill'd with such fine phrases,
George will alone have all the praises,
Unless we can (to get in vogue)
Contrive to speak an Epilogue.

PRINCE EDWARD.

George has, 'tis true, vouchsaf'd to mention
His future gracious intention;
In such heroic strains, that no man
Will e'er deny his soul is Roman.
But what have you or I to say to
The pompous sentiments of Cato?
George is to have imperial sway;
Our task is only to obey.
And, trust me, I'll not thwart his will,
But be his faithful Juba still.
—Tho', sister! now the play is over,
I wish you'd get a better lover.

PRINCESS AUGUSTA.

Why,—not to under-rate your merit,
Others would court with diff'rent spirit:
And I,—perhaps,—might like another
A little better than a brother,
Could I have one of England's breeding:
But 'tis a point they're all agreed in,
That I must wed a foreigner,
And cross the sea—the Lord knows where.
—Yet, let me go where'er I will,
England shall have my wishes still.

PRINCE EDWARD.

In England born, my inclination,
Like your's, is wedded to the nation:

And future times, I hope, will see
Me General, in reality.
—Indeed! I wish to serve this land,
It is my Father's strict command;
And none he ever gave will be
More cheerfully obey'd by me.

After the Play, the following exquisite Lines
were spoken by Master Nugent to Prince George,
in their respective characters of Cato and Portius:

CATO to PORTIUS.

While I, exalted by my Prince's grace,
In borrow'd pomp assume old *Cato's* place,
Tho' ill may suit his form with beardless youth,
Yet shall his soul beam forth in honest truth;
And thou, indulgent to my real part,
Accept this tribute from a faithful heart.
Whether some angel plann'd the poet's page,
And Addison foretold thy rising age;
Or whether, prompted by a kindred flame,
Thy early virtues wear a hero's name;
Still greater glories wait approaching years,
When *George* shall be, what *Portius* now appears:
When filial piety shall guard the throne,
And love paternal make thy fame its own.
Then shall great Cato from the heav'ns incline
His raptur'd eyes, to view his mended line.
Well may a brighter *Marcia* shine on earth,
When such she shines who gave our *Marcia* birth;
While, fraught with *British* worth and *Roman* fire,
A second *Juba* emulates his sire;
And nature's gifts, by liberal care refin'd,
Stamp in *Elizabeth* a *Lucia's* mind.
Nor nameless thou, our younger hope, repine,
The godlike *William's* deathless name is thine.
Should fell Ambition wasteful torrents spread,
Or motley Faction raise his frantic head,
Millions with *George* shall own his sacred cause
Of power, freedom, monarchy, and laws.
Thy virtues then shall claim a better fate
Than his, who fell beneath a falling state:
Our throne shall rise more glorious than his grave,
And *George* preserve, what *Cato* could not save.

Thus while thy arm the banner shall display,
 While *Edward* learns to conquer and obey,
 O! *Eton*, may this be thy boasted pride,
 Thy sons shall combat near their Prince's side.
 Cheer'd by his smiles, and honour'd by his choice,
 Thy tow'rs resound—I hear th' inspiring voice:
 “Never shall treason stain this bless'd retreat,
 “Nor barb'rous riot shake the Muse's seat;
 “Pure shall the hallow'd stream of learning flow,
 “And the chaste fires thro' spotless bosoms glow.
 “For these the Roman pour'd his patriot blood,
 “For these, unmov'd, the royal Spartan stood:
 “But Rome hath bled, and Greece hath fought in vain
 “For those who bend the neck, and court the chain.”

Pleasing as these performances might have been to the Royal Family, and the parties concerned, perhaps the most truly affecting and pathetic part attached to, or connected with, the Leicester House Theatricals, exists in the admirable lines to which the occasion gave rise, written by two unhappy gentlemen, named Gahagan and Connor, who then lay under sentence of death in (*Old*) Newgate, having been convicted of *diminishing* the current coin of the realm. One piece was addressed to Prince George; the other to the Duchess of Queensbury, probably the mother of the late *amorous* Duke of that title. Both these persons were guilty of an heinous offence; which circumstance probably had a tendency to render less rational any hope they might cherish of a remission, or even a mitigation, of punishment.

It would be going too far to assert, that the possession of taste and genius, and the advantages of a classical education, should give impunity to crime: still we may be allowed to regret, that the stern and harsh spirit of the times admitted of such highly-gifted men being thrown into foul and loathsome dungeons, loaded with irons; no bed but the floor; no pillow but a cold stone; the associates of the most atrocious banditti; and with no other

nourishment than a pennyworth of bread each person each day, with cold water for their beverage!

It reflects a high degree of lustre on the annals of this reign, that these savage features of our criminal jurisprudence have been so greatly softened; and one of its heaviest calamities was, the premature death of that great benevolent lawyer Sir Samuel Romilly, who, had he been spared, would probably in this approaching Parliament have rescued Great Britain from the deep disgrace of retaining the most sanguinary laws now in practice in Europe.

With the exception of the case of the Reverend Dr. Dodd, and, more recently, the very severe punishments inflicted upon the Rev. Doctor O'Halloran, for forging the frank of a letter, there has scarcely occurred so great a sacrifice of talents, taste, and genius, on the altars of laws, better fitted for the middle ages, than the advanced state of society in which they were permitted to exist. The unfortunate men all suffered their sentence: three of them died at Tyburn; the fourth was indeed not hung for a *eight-penny* forgery, but he suffered more torture in the ignominy and misery attached to transportation, than a hundred deaths. The fault rests with the lawyers, and solely with the lawyers. The late King never did, and never would, oppose any amelioration.

About this period of our annals, there were many horrible and deliberate murders committed, and many convictions of coiners fabricating *base* coin, and others for *diminishing* the coin, that is, taking part of the precious metal away; but surely there is a wide moral difference between issuing base metal in the guise of gold or silver, and *diminishing* the latter: yet the law consigns to the same end, the assassin of his parent or benefactors, the coiner, the *clipper* of coins, or him who *lifts* an article from

a counter with intent to steal! All are swept away by the gallows, although there exists so vast a difference in the degrees of guilt. It is, however, time to drop these discussions, and give the extraordinary performances by which they were occasioned, *viz.*

The following Lines, written by Usher Gahagan, while under sentence of death, were presented to His Royal Highness Prince GEORGE, Duke of Cornwall, and eldest son of His Royal Highness FREDERICK Prince of Wales, on his acting a part in *Cato* at Leicester House :

Tuus jam regnat Apollo.—VIRGIL.*

Hail! little *Cato*, taught to tread the stage,
 Awful as *Cato* of the *Roman* age :
 How vast the hopes of thy maturer years,
 When in the boy such manly pow'r appears !
 Say! what spectator but did pleas'd admire,
 To hear thee talk with sage *Catonic* fire :
 A tender stripling of the Royal blood,
 Breathing his country's liberty and good.
 What rapture warm'd thy princely Father's breast!
 What joy thy sceptred Grandsire then confess'd !
 Beholding thee, a tyro from the school,
 Foresaw the wisdom of thy future rule ;
 And *Ned*, thy little *Juba*, play his part,
 Half form'd by nature in *Bellona's* art.

Well may we say, when Royalty thus deigns
 To grace the stage, that “ *now APOLLO reigns!*”
 Whose tuneful handmaids should exult to see
 Such regal honour done to them in thee ;
 Nor less thy shade, O *Addison*, rejoice,
 To find thy *Cato* made a *Cato's* choice.

Lo! Britain glories, in thy years to trace
 A buskin'd hero of the Brunswick Race.
 Her stage now trod (tho' Collier! once thy scorn)
 By destin'd Monarchs, and high Princes born :
Augusta too, some King's allotted bride,
 Adorns her scenes, and gives an equal pride.
 But, Oh! when thou shalt once the sceptre wield,
 And *Edward* shine dread leader of the field ;

When thou a Cato's—he a Juba's task
Perform in *real* action, not in masque;
At home, when thou'lt thy country's good enhance,
While he abroad shall stem the pride of France;
When thou'lt establish *Europe's* wish'd repose,
Returning he the gates of Janus close:
Then, then *Britannia* may with reason boast,
Nor think her blood or treasure fruitless cost.

O! may she hail (but late) the glorious day,
When exercising thus imperial sway,
Of sire and grandsire's virtues thou possess'd,
Shalt gently rule, and make thy people bless'd;
When harass'd *Europe*, rescu'd from alarms,
Shall owe her rest to *George* and *Edward's* arms,
Rous'd with the thought, and impotently vain,
I now would launch into a nobler strain;
But see! the captive Muse forbids the lays,
Unfit to sketch the merit I would praise;
Such, at whose heels no galling shackles ring,
May raise their voice, and boldly touch the string;
Cramp'd hand and foot, while I in gaol must stay,
Dreading each hour the execution day;
Pent up in den, opprobrious alms to crave,
No *Desphick* cell, ye gods! nor *Sibyl's* cave;
Nor will my Pegasus obey the rod,
With massy iron barbarously shod;
Thrice I essay'd to force him up the height,
And thrice the painful gyves restrain'd his flight.

So, when a sickly snake attempts to creep,
And climb some slipp'ry rock, or ditch's steep;
Scarce half her length advanc'd, she backward falls,
And in slow volumes languishingly crawls.

Lond. Mag. Feb. 1749.

USHER GAHAGAN.

Gahagan is also said to have written the following Distich on himself:

Scriba, faber, vates, scripsi, sculpsi, celebravi,
Syngrapha, ligna, duces, alite, celte, metro.

English'd thus, only the words in the last line reversed:

Scriv'ner, mechanic, poet too,
Notes, tables, valiant men,
I've drawn, I've carv'd, I've dar'd to sing,
With metre, tool, and pen.

Another translation of Gahagan's Distich.

I, scriv'ner, artist, poet, have
 Been us'd to draw, carve, praise,
 Writings, and wood, and captains brave,
 With pen, and tool, and lays.

Lond. Mag. March, 1749.

It may be necessary to add, that much about the same time that these lines were presented to Prince George, a Latin Translation of Pope's Temple of Fame, and also of his Messiah, by the same malefactor, was presented to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. But these efforts of genius were suffered to plead in vain. Usher Gahagan was executed at Tyburn on Monday, February 20, 1749, for high treason, in diminishing the current coin of this kingdom.

Implicated in the same offence, and consigned to the same fate, were Terence Connor and Joseph Napham: the former of these was also a man of talents, which in the following epistle he exerted, but exerted in vain to avert his doom. This poetical epistle by Terence Connor, in the cells of Newgate, was addressed to Her Grace the Duchess of Queensbury, in February, 1749.

"Laturam misero te mihi rebar opem."—OVID.

Thou great Protectress of th' *Aonian* train,
 Support in each contemporary reign;
 Brightest devotress at the *Delian* shrine,
 Oft sung and courted by the sacred *Nine*:
 If e'er thy kindred, of immortal fame,
 The *Muses* lov'd, nor scorn'd a poet's name:
 If e'er thyself vouchsaf'd to touch the lyre,
 And join with equal voice the tuneful choir:
 If, on the canvass, to describe the face
 With animated bloom, and living grace,
 To draw the vernal flow'r and tinging shape,
 The peach, the melon, and the ripen'd grape,
 To make each story, holy or profane,
 Move in the landscape, and to vision plain:

If these, with courtly wit and eloquence,
 Be gifts, *Apollo* did to thee dispense,
 Which sure they are,—in charity regard
 The meanest of his sons, a captive bard;
 Far, far, alas! from home, and native clime,
 The first, perhaps, that did in *Newgate* rhyme;
 The first, perhaps, beneath his dreadful doom,
 That ever mounted the poetic loom.

O! born thyself of high *Pierian* blood,
 Boast of their times, nor yet more learn'd than good,
 Display thy bounty, where a life's at stake,
 And save the wretched for the poet's sake;
 The poet pent in narrow darkling cell,
 With vagrants and banditti forc'd to dwell,
 In pond'rous gyves of iron rudely bound,
 A stone his pillow, and his bed the ground;
 One penny loaf the banquet of a day,
 And chilling water to dilute his clay;
 Broke ev'ry morning of his painful rest,
 The scorn of turnkeys, and the keeper's jest;
 Sternly rebuk'd if he the least complains,
 And menac'd with a double load of chains:
 Thus, day and night, disconsolate I spend,
 Unpitied, and debarr'd of ev'ry friend;
 Deserted by the Muses, as by men,
 Save *Elegeia's* visits now and then,
 Daughter of grief! and ever-plaintive Muse,
 Taught only songs of sorrow to infuse:
 Dire comfort! thankful yet am I, that she
 Inspires these lines, O *Queensbury*! to thee.

Thou then, from infant years brought up in courts,
 Directress of their household, and their sports;
 The brilliant grace of both the *Georges'* age,
 In wit facetious, and in counsel sage,
 Allow, as heretofore, the same access,
 Pity this bard, and banish his distress;
 Maintain the glory of thy former days,
 And intercede to save a son of *Gay's*;
 Nor be it ever said in *British* land,
 That a poor bard was mercilessly hang'd.

Lond. Mag. Feb. 1749.

In one view it is painful to reflect, that men of superior talents and genius should find such an ignominious doom; but when we survey the same

subject in another light, we are compelled to allow, that those in whose favour ignorance cannot be pleaded, are the last to whom mercy should be extended.

1750.

“Saturday, Jan. 20, being the birth-day of Frederick Prince of Wales, it was observed with the usual festivities. Further particulars relative to the Royal Family will be found in the extracts taken from Doddington’s Diary.”

“On Saturday, May 13, about half-past twelve o’clock at noon, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a Prince at Leicester House, upon which occasion the guns in the Park, and at the Tower, were fired, and an express was immediately dispatched to Hanover, to acquaint His Majesty with the agreeable news.”

“On Sunday, June 17, the new-born Prince, son to the Prince and Princess of Wales, was baptized by the name of Frederick-William. The ceremony was performed by the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Oxford. The sponsors were their Royal Highnesses Prince George, and the Princess Augusta, and Prince William of Saxe-Gotha, brother to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, who was represented by the Right Hon. Lords North and Guildford.”

“The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, on Wednesday, 27th June, waited on the Prince and Princess of Wales; when Richard Adams, the Recorder, read the City Address of Congratulation on the birth of the young Prince, and the happy recovery of the Princess of Wales. The following are copies of the municipal address, and the Prince’s reply,” *viz.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

We the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen of the City of London, humbly beg leave to present our most

sincere and hearty congratulations to Your Royal Highnesses on the birth of another Prince, and the happy recovery of Her Royal Highness.

We cannot at present better shew our loyalty to the King, than by paying our duty to Your Royal Highnesses, and expressing our unfeigned joy at this increase of His Majesty's Family.

We consider every child of Your Royal Highnesses as an additional security of the people's happiness and freedom: by your examples they will learn the practice of every social virtue, to be earnest and zealous in the cause of liberty, and to maintain our civil and religious rights: may we never want one of Your Royal Highnesses' descendants to reign over a free, grateful, and obedient People.

The reply of the Prince was thus couched, *viz.*

MY LORD, AND GENTLEMEN,

I return you my thanks, and those of the Princess, for this very remarkable instance of duty to the King, and regard to us.

The expectation you express to have of my children are most agreeable to me: may they always be a blessing to this nation, and maintain the liberty, wealth, and power, it ought to have!

The City has always shewn so much partiality to me, that they may be assured none of their fellow-citizens can be warmer than I am for promoting their welfare and their trade.

This address and reply are given, because it was the last ceremony of the kind in which the Prince assisted; and there seems so little bombast in the address, or of studied yet empty compliment in the answer, that they will bear reading at this distant day, without exciting a smile of pity or contempt: nor could the answer have been more pleasing to the citizens, if the Prince had been a candidate to represent the city in Parliament, and had resided all his life within the sound of Bow bells. This, though a petty art, taken abstractedly, displays a deep knowledge of human nature, which

is the first great principle to acquire in the science of governing kingdoms.

Soon after the perfect recovery of the Princess, her husband and his particular friends set out on a tour: the following article will prove that Lord Bute was one of the favoured few: *viz.*

“ July.—About this time their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Lady Augusta their eldest daughter, made a tour to the West, attended by the Lords Middlesex, Bute, Bathurst, and Inchiquin, &c. They were received with great honours at Bath, and all places where they passed; particularly at Cirencester, where they were addressed by the steward and bailiff, high-constables, minister, churchwardens, and inhabitants of the town; by the wardens and ancient incorporated company of weavers; and by the wool-combers. The Prince’s answer to the first was: “ Gentlemen, I thank you in my own name, and that of the Princesses, for this mark of your regard to us: you may always depend upon my hearty good wishes for the town of Cirencester.” To the weavers: “ Gentlemen, the duty you express for the King, and the regard for us, is very agreeable to me. May liberty of conscience, trade, and manufactures, always flourish in this kingdom in general, and in this town in particular.” And to the wool-combers: “ Gentlemen, I am very well pleased with your zeal for the King, and regard to us. May this great manufacture, which is of such use to the kingdom, *daily augment.*” Here again the Prince displayed a specimen of the same sort of policy, which marked his reply to the Lord Mayor of London.

“ Thursday, July 12.—The following new Knights of the Garter were installed at Windsor, *viz.* His Royal Highness Prince GEORGE, the Margrave of Anspach, the Prince of Saxe-Gotha, the Prince of Hesse, and the Earl of Albemarle, now at Paris;

all these by proxy: the Earl of Inchiquin being proxy for the first; Sir Edward Faulkener for the second; Sir Clement Cotterel for the third; Sir Robert Wilmot for the fourth; and Sir Charles Eggleton for the fifth; and the Duke of Leeds, the Duke of Bedford, and the Earl of Granville, were at the same time installed in person."—The *oaths* were assuredly not administered to our late Sovereign at this early period of his life. Gustavus III. of Sweden, however, decorated his Heir apparent with all the Swedish orders of knighthood, at an earlier period; whilst, as if to render the University of Upsala ridiculous in the eyes of the world, he caused the learned and venerable rulers of that famed northern seminary to be elected its Chancellors! Such measures are too futile to captivate any but the weakest of mankind, and they might be termed regal fooleries, if truth were more in fashion at Courts.

Earthquakes felt under the Metropolis.

These events, so rare in this island, and the universal terror they originated, are thus described in the London Magazine: *viz.*

"February 8.—This day, between twelve and one at noon, the shock of an earthquake was felt all over the cities of London and Westminster, and parts adjacent, the chairs shaking in the houses, and the pewter rattling on the shelves. It was felt very sensibly on both sides the river Thames, from Greenwich almost to Richmond, insomuch that in all the places the inhabitants were struck with so great a panic, that they left their houses, and ran into the streets, being apprehensive that the houses were falling. The counsellors in the Court of King's Bench and Chancery in Westminster Hall, were so alarmed, that they expected the building would be

demolished. At Hampstead, Highgate, and all round, within six miles of London, it was felt very sensibly; at the two abovementioned places more particularly. In London it was felt most by the inhabitants bordering near the river Thames, but was very perceptible in all parts; and at Limehouse, Poplar, &c. it was so violent, that some chimneys were thrown down: several boats and ships at their moorings in the river, received a surprising shock therefrom. In Leadenhall-street, part of a chimney was thrown down; as was also a wooden building in Davis's Rents, Southwark. In several parts of London the pewter fell from the shelves to the ground. By a person who afterwards came from Hertford, we were assured, that the same was felt very much there; and we were also assured, that it was very sensibly felt at Gravesend."

Second Shock of an Earthquake.

"Tuesday, March 8.—This morning, at half an hour after five o'clock, the town was again alarmed with another shock of an earthquake, which was generally allowed to be more violent, and of a longer continuance, than that which was felt this day month: it was attended with a great rustling noise, as of wind, and numbers of people were awaked from their sleep merely by the violence of it; though, thank God, it did no other mischief than throwing down several chimneys, and damaging some houses. The shock was so great in some parts, that the people ran from their houses and beds almost naked, being in great consternation at this unusual visitation. In the high grounds by Grosvenor-square, &c. it is said to have been felt more than in other parts, the brasses and pewters of several kitchens being thrown down, and to some distance from the shelves. In St. James's Park, and all the open places, the ground moved very

perceptibly, and the noise seemed to break three times. It was observed, about five o'clock, that there was a continual, though confused lightning, till within a minute or two of the shock being felt, which darted very low, and the flashes very great and strong. It was reported by a great many people, that there was a small shock between one and two the same morning. The great shock at first mentioned was felt at Copt-hall, at Loughton, and in the skirts of Epping, next to London, but not in Epping-street; likewise at Thegdon-mount and Nettswell. It was felt also at Cheshunt, Ware, and Hertford, and very violent at Waltham; also at Bromley, Beckenham, and Croydon, at which two last places it occasioned the hammers of the clocks to strike upon the bells. A writer, in one of the papers, endeavours to shew that this was not an earthquake, but an airquake, occasioned by the bursting of a great ball of fire in the air, which some were reported to have seen, who never saw it: however, the notion of its being only an airquake has been generally, and we think deservedly, exploded."

Prophecy of the World's End!

"April 4.—A crazy life-guards' man, having taken upon himself to prophesy, that a third shock of an earthquake, much more terrible than the two former, would happen on Thursday morning, being four weeks after the second, as the second was just four weeks after the first; it is almost impossible to conceive the consternation with which many credulous people were seized upon such a silly prognostication. Great numbers on this day, and some days before, not only retired from their habitations and business, into the country themselves, but some even locked up their houses, and

took their whole families along with them; and others sat up, not without some terror, till the predicted time was past, which was to have been between twelve and one at night. Nor was this panic yet over; because some were so ignorant, or foolish, as to think that though the shock did not happen on Thursday, it was still to be feared on Sunday, being the eighth day of the month, because the other two happened on the eighth day of the month, viz. Feb. 8, and March 8. For people to possess themselves with such imaginary fears, is certainly wrong; but they would do well to remember, that though there was nothing in these presumptuous predictions, yet they know not how soon nor how suddenly such judgments may light upon us; God only knowing when it is the proper time to punish a nation for their iniquities: and he who shook this metropolis, can, with the same ease, not only shake, but in a moment destroy this whole island, by means which no human sagacity could ever foresee or foretell.

“Therefore, the only safe way is, for every one to repent and reform, that they may be prepared for every dispensation of Providence. As to the life-guards’ man, he was sent to the mad-house, as the properest place for him, before he could see the issue of his prediction.”

In the preceding sketches and selections, the unhappy fate of Gahagan and Connor, with specimens of their poetical taste and genius, occupy a considerable space. These men suffered the terrible severity of the law: the following extract will prove in what manner the Crown was advised to exercise its bright prerogative of shewing mercy:—*viz.*

“At night the Sessions ended at the Old Bailey, when seven malefactors received *sentence* of DEATH.”

A little further on, “ the *hangman*, John Thrift, was convicted of having *murdered* David Farris;” and on Friday, 14th September, occurs the following record, *viz.*

“ A free pardon came for John Thrift, who was condemned some time ago for murder, and afterwards ordered for transportation. *He has since acted in his former office of executioner.*” Nothing on record can more fully illustrate the deep disgrace of continuing to cherish a sanguinary code, which has been condemned by the voice of Europe and America, than directing the attention of the reader to the execution of those accomplished gentlemen Gahagan and Connor, and the free pardon extended to a hangman, after having been convicted of *wilful murder*.

“ On Wednesday, 16th May, *thirteen* miserable wretches were conveyed from Newgate, (one upon a sledge, the hangman riding before, the others in four carts.) There being, at the place of execution, crowds of soldiers and sailors to receive some of the bodies, they were ordered by the sheriffs to be delivered to them, after being cut down by the executioner. *By this prudent regulation* (says the Editor) *the barbarous custom of fighting for the bodies after execution, and the many cruel mischiefs arising from thence, were prevented.*”

Was the age deserving the honourable term of *civilized*, wherein such horrible scenes could be publicly transacted? As long as the present sanguinary code of laws remains in force, the evil will continue to operate, and imperial Britain remain far in the rear of Denmark, Sweden, Russia, the United States,—of Germany, France, Belgium; in fact, of every country in Europe, if the present insurrection in Spain should lead to the introduction of a constitutional government.

On the Thursday week, following the execution of *thirteen* wretched beings at Tyburn, ‘ *A gentleman*

attended the Court of Aldermen with a message from the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Justice Lee, to acquaint them of the necessity of some new regulation to be made concerning the Gaol of Newgate, *or that it would be dangerous for persons to attend the business of the Sessions at the Old Bailey.*' Such was the message, to which was annexed, '*a list of upwards of TWENTY persons, that were at the last Sessions, who have since died, as it was thought, by some infection from the STENCH of the prisoners!*' A more frightful idea of the miseries of the wretched inmates of Newgate at this period, than what the elegant and forcible appeals of Gahagan and Connor presented in their pathetic addresses to Prince George and the Duchess of Queensbury, can hardly be conceived; and as the former also sent a copy of verses addressed to the Recorder, it is at least probable, although his highly gifted mind failed in obtaining any mitigation of his own hard lot, it had a beneficial influence upon the fate of others. And although the Newgate of 1820 is a palace compared with the loathsome den of cruelty, disease, filth, and tyranny described; yet, so long as our penal code remains *unchanged*, so long as *infants* of eight or nine years old can be arraigned, and tried for their lives, instead of being placed in seminaries for their *instruction* and *correction*, so long the root of the evil will remain; for the greatest sources of CRIME unquestionably exist in defective and perverted institutions. Before these observations are closed, and the subject dismissed, it is essential to state, that on Friday the 6th July, THREE WOMEN, *and neither for murder or maiming*, were executed at Tyburn. It is heart-sickening to read these annals; and still more so, to find, in 1820, the same sanguinary laws remain unrepealed!

1751.

“ Sunday, Jan. 20, being the anniversary of the birth-day of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who then entered the 45th year of his age, His Royal Highness received the compliments of the nobility and gentry, at Leicester House, on the occasion. The public festivity was deferred till the next day. This was the last anniversary this celebrated Prince ever lived to see; who, no doubt, had as little idea of his death being so near at hand, as any of his visitors had of their latter end.”

Extract from a Letter, relative to Crimes and Punishments.

“ Death is become too familiar to our profligates; and no wonder, as it is a *jubilee* for our butchers' apprentices, and loose young fellows of that class, to attend a *dozen* or a *score* of the most unhappy wretches to Tyburn. *The condemned are made a public spectacle in our gaols, and suffered to carouse, not only there, but on their passage to the gallows.* The only emulation among them is, who shall go out of the world with the least remorse, sense of shame, or token of repentance. In the mean time, the community is losing so many of its members; most, if not all of which, might (by means of better laws) be rendered useful.”

On the Effects of Gin-drinking.

Extract from a Sermon preached by the Bishop of Worcester.

“ But to give a somewhat juster idea of the dreadful havoc of the human species made by those baneful spirits, it may not be improper briefly to observe that, since the prevalence of GIN, there has

been a decrease of near *five thousand* christenings in those parishes only that are accounted in the bills of mortality; the number of children not exceeding five years old, who have annually died since the same most unhappy epoch, is prodigious, and appears with a dreadful disproportion, upon a just comparison.

“ In London, the christenings, on a medium, for the last ten years, have annually amounted to 14,457.

“ But the annual number of children in London, who have died under five years of age, at a medium, amounts to no less than 10,590.

“ Whereas, the proportion, according to Doctor Halley’s accurate calculation, should be no more than 6317.

“ So that the loss to the public, by the premature death of weak, short-lived children, in one district only, amounts to the astonishing number of above 4200. And, how dreadful is the thought, this loss is repeated every year.”

Hogarth’s celebrated print representing *Gin Lane*, affords another proof of the mischief which was foreseen and foretold by many enlightened writers; but the interest of the *revenue* prevailed: and *lotteries* and *gin* have ever since been permitted to exercise their combined ravages on the morals and the health of the people.

The following extracts from Doddington’s Diary shews succinctly the rise and progress of the disease which terminated the life of the Prince of Wales:

“ March 6.—Went to Leicester House, where the Prince told me he had caught cold the day before at Kew, and had been blooded.”

“ 8.—The Prince not recovered. Our passing the week at Kew put off.”

“ 10.—At Leicester House. The Prince was better, and saw company.”

“ 13.—At Leicester House. The Prince did not appear, having a return of a pain in the side.”

“ 14.—At Leicester House. The Prince asleep—twice blooded, and with a blister on his back, as also on both legs that night.”

“ 15.—The Prince had a plentiful evacuation, and was out of all danger.”

“ 16.—The Prince without pain or fever.”

“ 17.—Went twice to Leicester House. The Prince had had a bad night, till one this morning; then was better, and continued so.”

“ 18.—The Prince better, and so sat up half an hour.”

“ 20.—I was told at Leicester House, at three o'clock, that the Prince was much better, and had slept eight hours the night before, while, I suppose, the mortification was forming; for he died this evening, a quarter before ten o'clock, as I found by a letter from Mr. Breton at six o'clock the following morning.”

“ 21.—I came immediately to town, and learned from Mr. Breton, who was at Leicester House when the Prince died, that, for half an hour before, he was very cheerful, asked to see some of his friends, ate some bread and butter, and drank some coffee: he had spat for some days, and was at once seized with a fit of coughing and spitting, which last was so violent, that it suffocated him. Lord North was sent to the King. This morning the King ordered the body to be opened: an abscess was found in his side; the breaking of which destroyed him. His physicians, Wilmot and Lee, knew nothing of his distemper, as they declared, half an hour before he died, that his pulse was like a man's in perfect health: they either would not, or did not know, the consequences of the black thrush, which appeared in his mouth and quite down his throat.

Their ignorance, or their knowledge of his disorder, renders them equally inexcusable for not calling in other assistance.

“ From Thursday the 12th, when he supped at Carlton House, and when he relapsed before he went to bed, *the Princess never suffered any English man or woman, above the degree of a valet-de-chambre, to see him*; nor did she vouchsafe to see any one, man or lady of the family, not even the lady-in-waiting, till Sunday last, when it was absolutely necessary somebody should appear to receive compliments; and then Lady Scarborough was ordered, instead of a Lord, who, as she apprehended, might have expected to see the Prince. She saw Dr. Lee one day before the death, and, just after the event, she had a long conference, till past twelve, with him and the Earl of Egmont.

“ When this unfortunate event happened, I had set on foot, by the means of the Earl of Shaftsbury, a project for a union between the independent Whigs and Tories, by a writing, renouncing all tincture of Jacobitism, and affirming short but constitutional and revolutionary principles. I had given his Lordship the paper: his good heart and understanding made him indefatigable, and so far successful, that there were good grounds to hope for a happy issue. These parties, so united, were to lay this paper, containing these principles, before the Prince, offering to appear as his party now; and upon those principles to undertake the administration, when he was King, in the subordination and rank amongst themselves that he should please to appoint.—Father of mercy! thy hand that wounds, alone can save!”

Vide Diary, p. 85, 86, 87, 88.

The very last paragraph of this long quotation affords the most decisive evidence, that this restless intriguer, at the instant when the *unexpected* death

of the Prince of Wales cut short all his projects, and broke up the web woven by this plot-spinner, had digested and nearly matured a plan for taking possession of the reins of government, harnessing an aged and stubborn King by the side of his son, and compelling them to drag the oligarchal car. Doddington appears to have calculated that the partisans of the Stuart-dynasty would be glad, on *any terms*, to get into POWER under the House of Brunswick, that they might effect its overthrow by treachery, having been so completely foiled in every attempt to restore the *legitimate* heir by force. A union,—a temporary and collusive union of course,—between the *Tories*, and place-hunting apostate *Whigs*, was, of all probable events, the one most certain to have overturned the administration: and if Doddington had not sold himself to the descendants of the exiled king, (which coincided with the atrocious duplicity that marked his political meanderings,) the sceptre would have been wrested from the King, who, with his Heir apparent, must have become mere passive spectators of the reign of the oligarchs. Doddington was, however, aware that it was not the *religion* of James II. that had caused his expulsion, but his base subserviency to a *foreign power*, whose dominion the infatuated prince would have introduced, though certain it must lead to the subversion of his throne. The king might have lived and died a CATHOLIC, if he had had the good sense to have left the liberties of the people, and *their* religion, untouched. The result of the two Hanoverian reigns, owing to the want of taste, politeness, and courtesy, had disgusted a large proportion of the three kingdoms, and that of the higher orders. In fact, nothing but the fear of *Popery* kept George II. on his throne.

On the other hand, Prince Charles Stuart was fully convinced that every attempt to re-establish a despotic throne, and the Papal sway, were hope-

less, as well as wicked projects. He had seen the land of his fathers, and it is not wonderful he should sigh for its dominion. It is not strange, that, weary of the rank of a pensioner on the Bourbons, he should aspire at the recovery of the triple crown that his royal ancestors had worn; and be fully satisfied, if he might in secret exercise his own religion, to leave that of the state untouched.

Such is the construction of which, in the Editor's mind, the preceding negociations admit: for it is quite as probable that the *Tories* consulted the titular king, as that Doddington was ruled by the leaders of the Whigs.

Whatever were the defects of that Prince of Wales, who, living and dead, has been so harshly and disrespectfully treated, it is an unquestionable fact, he was the most popular of all his race down to the day of his death. Hence it is possible, for the sake of increasing that popularity of which he was so proud, and without penetration to discover the ruin that lay hidden beneath the tempting overture from the *Tories*, he might, had he lived, and put himself at the head of the *Tories*, have signed the death-warrant of his Family; since such a coalition would at once have blasted his popularity with the nation, and thereby have undermined the pillars of the Brunswick succession. But this conclusion, whilst it shews the danger of the Prince's conduct, by putting himself, in those feverish times, at the head of a party, does not establish its folly. The Prince, as his father had been before him, stood as remote from all interference with the government of Great Britain and Ireland, as any private gentleman. He saw the King surrounded by an unprincipled set of incapable ministers, by whom his chance of succession might be endangered; and as it is always courteous to assign a good motive where such presents itself, this Prince is entitled to credit for an honest and praiseworthy desire to

support the liberties of the nation, and his own interest as Heir apparent, by placing himself at the head of a powerful party, sufficiently strong to overawe the Ministry, and enable him to ascend the throne free from *their* shackles; and, at the same time, to put down any attempt, either by force or artifice, to restore the *legitimate* heir to the Stuarts' throne.

Such might have been, and probably were, the distinct views of a Whig-Prince, and the pliant Tories, at the period of Prince Frederick's death in 1751. As to the real view of Doddington, such was the habitual obliquity of the man, that he was probably never sincerely bent on a *present object*, but constantly had one eye turned towards the past, and the other bent on futurity. And although his Diary is entitled to credit wherever he has not made himself appear as acting under base motives, or where he is inconsistent with the evidence of facts or of history, yet every part which has a tendency to criminate the memory of Prince Frederick, and exonerate his own, should be received with all the caution that the notorious character of the narrator merits.

The conduct of this keen politician, in the years 1737 and 1738, has already been sufficiently displayed and commented on. At that period, from the contents of his Diary, it seems he had given offence to the Prince of Wales; the second paragraph of his Journal running thus, *viz.*

“During my illness, several kind expressions of the Prince towards me were reported to me; and on the 8th of March, His Royal Highness ordered the Earl of Middlesex, (the Duke of Dorset's son,) his master of the horse, to send Mr. RALPH, (*a political writer*,) whom he had often talked to about me,* with a message from His Royal Highness, to

* The Editor, in his preface, alluding to the shuffling and dirty politics of Doddington, says, “But all this may be strictly
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offer me the full return of his favour, and to put the principal direction of his affairs into my hands."

Considering the *talents at intrigue* possessed by that useful go-between Mr. Ralph, it is reasonable to suppose, although it is not easy to prove, that Doddington had had a long course of secret machinations, in full and successful play, before this message was sent, which, either was not put on record by the agitator, or, for the sake of casting an additional shade on the Prince's character, has been withheld. And although the *overture*, by this Diary, appears to have sprung spontaneously from the Prince, yet whoever pleases to peruse this celebrated book, by discovering numerous instances of most disreputable manœuvring, will perhaps agree in this opinion; and consider, if the Prince of Wales really acted as is recorded, that it probably was in consequence of prior application, and of some tempting advantages held out by Doddington himself. Nay, the character of this vile hireling is so ignominiously conspicuous in the pages of the Diary, as well as contemptuously treated in the Preface, that the reader must be very much prejudiced who will not admit, that the Prince of Wales was used as a stalking-horse by the faction who appeared to espouse his cause, and by none so shamelessly as by Mr. Doddington.

The same day, as the good Mr. Ralph carried the flattering message from the Prince, Mr. Doddington wrote thus in his *simulated Journal*, i. e. "I told Mr. Ralph that *I desired the two following*

honourable within the verge of a court; and on this account, I could patiently hear his Lordship (George III. made Doddington a Peer) recommend Mr. RALPH as a very honest man; and in the same pages he informs us, *that he was ready to be hired to any cause; that he actually put himself up to AUCTION to the two contending parties* (the Bedford and Pelhams); and that, *after several biddings, the honest Mr. RALPH was bought by the PELHAMS.*"—p. x. Mr. Ralph's name occurs in the Diary.

days to consider of it, and that he should have my answer at twelve o'clock on Saturday the 11th inst."

He would thus partly make it appear, and next leave it to be implied, that unexpectedly, and altogether unsought for, the Prince of Wales had tempted him by the flattering overture of placing him at the head of his councils; and that the conscientious statesman did not yield till after two entire days spent in calm consideration. On the 11th, Doddington tendered his resignation of the office of Treasurer to the Navy in the Newcastle administration, (p. 2,) and the same day, he says, he gave his written answer to the Prince's *gracious message*. Till the 3d of May following, Mr. Doddington appears, at the request of the King, to have held his appointment: and although he had various interviews with the Prince, as if to throw his action as remote from his intrigues as possible, the first interview *recorded* is dated 16th July, which runs thus, *viz.*

"The Prince was extremely kind to me, and often admitted me to the honour of supping with him and the Princess. But on Saturday, the 15th July, going to Carlton House to make my compliments before I went to Eastbury, he ordered me to sup with him, and invited me to spend the day with him at Kew on the following Thursday, being the 18th, wanting, as he was pleased to say, to talk to me about business."

"July 18.—This day I arrived at Kew about eleven o'clock. The Prince received me most kindly, and told me he desired to see me come into his service on any terms, and by any title I pleased; that he meant to put the PRINCIPAL direction of his affairs into my hands; and what he could not do for me in his present situation, must be made up in futurity. All this in a manner so noble and frank, and with expressions so full of affection and regard, that

I ought not to remember them but as a debt, and to perpetuate my gratitude.

“ After dinner he took me into a private room, and of himself began to say, that he thought I might as well be called Treasurer of the Chambers, as any other name; that the Earl of Scarborough, *his* Treasurer, might take it ill, if I stood upon the establishment with a higher salary than he did; that His Royal Highness's destination was, that I should have £2000 *per annum*; that he thought it best to put me on the establishment at the highest salary only, and that he would pay me the rest himself. I humbly desired that I might stand upon the establishment without any salary, and that I would take, what he now designed for me, when he should be King, *but nothing before*. He then said, that it became him to make me that offer, but it did not become him to accept it, consistent with his reputation, and therefore it must be in present. He then immediately added, that we must settle what was to happen in *reversion*; that he thought a *Peerage, with the management of the House of Lords, and the Seals of Secretary of State for the southern province, would be a proper situation for me, if I approved it*. Perceiving me to be under some embarrassment by this *unexpected* offer, and at a loss how to express myself, he stopped me, and then said, ‘ *I now PROMISE you, on the word and honour of a Prince, that, as soon as I come to the THRONE, I will give you a PEERAGE, and the seals of the southern province.*’ Upon my endeavouring to thank him, he repeated the same words; and added, pulling back his chair, ‘ And I give you leave to kiss my hand upon it now, *by way of acceptance;*’ which I did accordingly.”

Giving *implicit* credit to Mr. Doddington, the reader would be bound to believe, that all these profuse offers of present and future honours, these demonstrations of placing Doddington at the

head of his present councils, and bestowing upon him a peerage, and one of the highest offices in the state, upon the death of the reigning King, proceeded from personal friendship and esteem: nor did the Prince's condescension end there; for, according to Mr. Doddington's pen, the Prince said, "I will provide for your friends, whom I know you value more than yourself: Mr. Turnere shall have the Treasury; Sir Francis Dashwood be Treasurer of the Navy, or Cofferer; Mr. Henley, Solicitor General; and I give you leave to tell them so; and I will confirm it to them myself."—"We agreed that he (the Prince) should send for me to Cliefden when he was settled there, where the warrant should be ordered, &c. &c. &c."

"Oct. 13.—Sent a *memorial*, with a letter, to the Prince: waited on their Royal Highnesses. They lay at Kew, and ordered me to attend them the next day."

"Nov. 4.—Dined and supped at Kew. The Prince read to me an answer to *my memorial*, written with his own hand. The difference in opinion between us is not considerable. The piece is astonishingly well drawn."

The next entry in Mr. Doddington's Diary is most important, and shews so many powerful motives for the Prince's conduct towards that politician, as throws considerable doubt upon his candour and veracity, both as respects the *origin* of the Prince's *overture* already given, and the authenticity of the manly and becoming memorial given p. 425. This important entry runs thus: *viz.*

"Nov. 12.—I dined at Carlton House. The company, only the Prince, the Earl Egmont, and Dr. Lee. OUR BUSINESS, *the immediate steps to be taken on the demise of the King, more particularly with relation to the CIVIL LIST.* His Royal Highness said he had three methods proposed to him: the first was to let the present Ministers settle it, and

then part with them and the Parliament: the second was, to dismiss four or five of the principals, but to vote for the Civil List before the Parliament was dissolved: the third (which he was pleased to say he thought was my opinion) was, to dismiss the Parliament immediately; to turn all those out whom he did not design to continue, and to throw himself upon the country for a new Parliament, and a provision for himself and family, which he desired should be only a clear annuity of £800,000, giving back the surplus to the public, with whatever duties might attend it. The first proposition, His Royal Highness put out of the question; the second and third he desired that he might be satisfied upon, from a full consideration; because, what was there determined, he would unalterably stand by, when communicated and agreed to by the Earl of Carlisle, Lord Baltimore, and Lord Chief Justice Willes. It was discussed, and we were all at last of opinion, that the third proposition was the greatest, most popular, and the best. *His Royal Highness came heartily into it, gave us his hand, and made us take hands with each other to stand by and support it. I undertook (says Doddington) to find TWO OR THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS to go on with, till a new Parliament could grant the CIVIL LIST.*"

Here then is a very sufficient explanation of the whole intrigue: Doddington was led to believe that the King could not hold it out long. He knew the Prince was very indigent, taking up money wherever he could get it, and sinking deeper into arrears. Doddington employs his creature *Ralph*, to sound the disposition of the Prince as to receiving him (D——n) once more into his favour. To give force to the overture, the crafty agent, Mr. *Ralph*, was probably instructed by his employer to hint that, on *certain conditions*, his principal would advance two or three hundred thousand pounds

for the Prince's immediate use; a sum equal to the purchase of all the Hanoverian dominions when George I. was born. It is not wonderful, that with a Prince, whose passions were so much stronger than his judgment, this splendid bribe prevailed. Mr. Doddington seemed to have succeeded: but Providence did not smile upon his plans. Instead of the King, *it was the Prince who died*. It is pretty certain, by the amount of the Prince's debts, as stated in this very Diary, that His Royal Highness did not touch this considerable loan; for the following autumn, (vide Diary, p. 69, &c.) Doddington appears actually engaged in a project to raise £100,000 for the Prince, on the security of his interest in the Duchy of Cornwall: lastly, just as death cut short their projects, the same keen and veteran intriguer was again at work to unite the *Whigs* and *Tories*, and the Prince of Wales was to consider himself as the head of the party! After such plotting and intriguing, it would be credulous in the extreme to receive as genuine every thing, which, at a distant day, and under very greatly altered circumstances, this gentleman may have pleased to enter into his Journal.

It is perfectly consistent with Mr. Doddington's shuffling character to suppose that he would endeavour to exonerate himself, as far as possible, from all censure respecting the politics of this Prince, in order to ingratiate himself with his Heir, and the Princess of Wales. When the present King came to man's estate; and when the influence of unfavourable prejudices against the author of the Diary might blast his long-protracted hopes of a Peerage, and high official rank, what could be more natural than for him to mutilate, erase, interpolate, and fabricate such facts, as should tend to diminish the odium of his former conduct, by laying, as far as he durst, the blame upon the Prince. History does not afford so clear and unequivocal an avowal of

crooked politics and complicated treachery. And when such an outcry was raised against Frederick as being a *worthless son*; and when even his *death* was mentioned as a '*blessing*' by those who ranked amongst the favourites of the rising Heir to the Crown of Great Britain, there was no depth of wickedness to which such a character would not descend, when his hopes of preferment depended upon his power to blacken the memory of the dead, and thereby *whitewash* his own faded and soiled character.

It was thus the misfortune of Frederick, to have been tempted by the mean parsimony of his Father, to throw himself into the arms of a party, who, cloaking their eagerness for place under the plausible appearance of zeal for His Highness, threw all the odium of their measures upon his name. Whilst among those partisans, it is extremely probable some were in the pay of the Stuarts, or rather of the French Court, and others in the employ of an hostile administration.

The atrocious calumnies, or disgraceful truths, respecting the Royal Family, which Horace Walpole disseminated, have already been noticed, and also their tendency. In the *Walpoliana*, (vol. i. p. 89, 90,) is the following string of elegant *compliments* to the House of Brunswick generally, and to Prince Frederick specifically: *viz.* "It seems fatal to the House of Hanover to display a constant succession of quarrels between father and son. FREDERICK PRINCE OF WALES was a WORTHLESS SON. *The cant of liberty assumed by his partisans, was truly ludicrous; as much as the Prince's pretended taste for poetry and the arts. I recollect NONE of his ancestors eminent in arms; and that ANY of the family should have a REAL TASTE for letters, would be little short of a miracle.*" Fame has not yet redeemed that part of this bitter sarcasm levelled at the want of true taste.

The late Doctor Walcot, better known as Peter Pindar, who has lately been terribly bemaused by the witless writers of the passing hour, for having taken such unbecoming liberties with monarchy, never went a hundredth part of the lengths of licentiousness in his strictures, as mark those of the *noble* author, Horace Walpole; and the former had at least a hundred times more wit than the latter, who was most conspicuous for *malice* and polished impudence.

The character of Frederick Prince of Wales has been equally overloaded with abuse, and overwhelmed by flattery. His enemies depicted him a half idiot, a driveller, and sot: his partisans injured him more by dressing up their idol with the whole moral wardrobe of princely virtues. Smollet, in his *History of England*, has given the following character of this Prince: *viz.*

“In the midst of these deliberations, the kingdom was alarmed with an event which overwhelmed the people with grief and consternation. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in consequence of a cold caught in his garden at Kew, was seized with a pleuritic disorder; and, after a short illness, expired on the 20th of March, to the unspeakable affliction of his royal Consort, and the unfeigned sorrow of all who wished well to their country. This excellent Prince, who died in the 45th year of his age, was possessed of every amiable quality which could engage the affections of the people; a tender and obliging husband, a fond parent, a kind master, liberal, generous, candid, and humane; a munificent patron of the arts, an unwearied friend to merit; well disposed to assert the rights of mankind in general, and warmly attached to the interests of these kingdoms. The nation could not but be afflicted at seeing a Prince of such expectations ravished from their hopes; and their grief was the better founded, as the King had

already attained to an advanced age, and the Heir apparent, George, now Prince of Wales, was a minor!"

Juvenile Character of Frederick Prince of Wales.

The following article is extracted from the Gentleman's Magazine, 1751, p. 195. It is stated in a preliminary letter, that it was written at Hanover, by Hammond, the author of 'Love Elegies,' in the tenth year of the Prince's age, i. e. 1716. If this be correct, Cibber, in his Lives of the Poets, must have made a mistake, for he has stated in his Life of Anthony Hammond, that he died in 1743, in the thirty-first year of his age; and, consequently, the poet could have been no more than *four* years of age, and, of course, incapable of writing a sentence of biography.

The first sentence of this characteristic sketch of the Prince when a boy, shews that even then he had been assailed by envious, perhaps mercenary slanderers; and it was his fate to be pursued by them during his whole life. Nor did the unnatural chase terminate with the mortal existence of its object, for the foul spirit engendered between conflicting parties followed him beyond the grave; and even when the male race of the Stuarts became extinct, his memory was traduced by those who were the advocates for that despotism which led to the banishment of that dynasty.

Mr. Anthony Hammond, in the early part of his life, certainly held an appointment at Hanover, near the person of Frederick, son of George II. and there is no reason to question the authenticity of the piece; but its candour may be doubted. It was evidently composed to repel the prevailing calumnies of the hour, and it partakes of all that fervour of youthful affection, which has no other object than to embellish and adorn:

“As malice and envy are of all others most properly called diabolical passions of the mind; so there is, undoubtedly, no conquest a well regulated soul takes more joy in obtaining, than in the effectual subduing of malice; and in reducing even envy itself to remain tongue-tied in such a manner, as that, if it offers to speak, it pains itself.

“Such is the satisfaction which Prince Frederick gives to all good men who approach him. They glory in the just sense they have of his wonderful natural talents, and acquired accomplishments; and seem to share in the triumphs which his virtues and endowments will most certainly gain over the malicious and envious.

“As for us, who are here, the sense we have (as Englishmen) of our present happiness, in attending every day on Prince Frederick (who is constantly pleased to shew some distinguishing mark of his goodness and inclination to us) is not to be expressed.

“Nothing can be more agreeable than the person of this young Prince: his eyes are full of life and vigour; his hair extremely fine; his complexion clear and fair; and his shape exact: his constitution is very healthy; and the cheerful innocence and sweetness of youth which shine in his looks, add such an amiable grace to his whole deportment, as to render him the delight of all who have the honour and happiness of approaching him. He applies himself to his exercises, *viz.* riding, dancing, and fencing, with great assiduity; in all which he will attain to such a degree of perfection, as becomes the son of a Monarch: of these, riding is the exercise His Royal Highness seems most to delight in; and he will, as far as I am able to judge, excel in it.

“He speaks the French language with great facility and propriety, and makes a daily progress in the English. He advances considerably in the

studies proper for his age; in the Latin tongue, geography, and some parts of natural history; and knows so much of the present state of Christendom, as to be able to discourse very pertinently on the kings now reigning, and on the principal affairs at present in agitation.

“The Prince seems to be in an excellent method of education; is pleased with his governors and preceptors, who have equal reason to be satisfied with His Royal Highness; their great care being fully compensated by the encouraging progress they find him make every day in all things that could be expected he should learn, or improve in, at his years.

“As the utmost care is taken to make him master of things as well as of words, by instilling into his mind such notions as are not only suitable to his age and capacity, but also to the high rank he will hold, and the figure he will one day make in Europe; so by the particular orders of His Majesty (George I.) the very least appearance of flattery is banished from him. And those orders having been observed in a stricter manner, than it is easy to imagine they should be in a court, His Royal Highness is taught, and has learnt, to have a contempt for that mean and encroaching vice.

“This is a different turn from that which seems to be taken in the education of a neighbouring Prince, (the king of France:) in that, a shew of something great appears to be aimed at; in this, the foundations of solid virtue are well laid. There *the king! the king!* is every moment sounded in his ear; whilst the rational creature, *the man*, is not often thought of: but here His Royal Highness is told, he is to be a man, (as others are,) and that if he would have his character eminently illustrious, he must stand first in virtue, as well as in degree. Thus is he early formed to be a monarch truly great; though, undoubtedly, that innate goodness,

that extreme modesty and filial piety, which appear so lively in His Royal Highness, will make him always continue to wish, that the day may come late when he shall be called to the throne of those nations he is born to govern.

“The vivacity of his parts is truly wonderful; and as he has a great deal of spirit, he at the same time is blessed with a most amiable nature and sweetness of temper, to direct that spirit, which never fails to render it exceedingly engaging.

“His memory, both of persons and things, is beyond what is ordinarily to be met with. He says something to almost every one who comes to wait upon him; but never says an improper thing. He very rarely asks a second time who such or such a person is. He shews a constant attention to whatever is said to him, or in his presence; and such an apparent desire to please and oblige every body, as never fails of its end.

“He never discovers the least mark of anger or resentment upon any occasion, that I could ever observe; but always keeps up to the most exact good breeding, gentleness, and a constant endeavour to be entertaining, in such a manner as shews it to be natural in him to please.

“His Royal Highness says many things, and very frequently much above what might be expected from his tender years: but what is most remarkable, most distinguishing in his character, is that good nature, which always appears in every thing he says.

“From this source of good nature flow many excellent qualities, which time will not fail to ripen into noble and princely virtues; from hence now arises that regard which His Royal Highness shews to the instructions of his governors and preceptors; this will grow up to that virtue, which makes Princes listen to the wise counsel of their faithful servants, and never inflexible to them.

“ This good nature, that now leads him to treat every one in the most obliging manner, will, of course, improve into a tender and generous concern for his inferiors, and terminate in a diffusive and royal beneficence, which will fix this standing maxim in his mind,—That there is nothing good in power, but the power of doing good.

“ In a word, whenever Prince Frederick shall come to be a Sovereign of nations, he will be the delight of them; for then royal power will enable him to relieve, protect, and reward in the most extensive manner. This excellent disposition, this good nature, shews he has it always in his intention; and from hence I will venture to pronounce, that happy will the people be whom he shall govern.”

Having thus given the juvenile character of Frederick Prince of Wales, drawn by the hand of that eminent poet Mr Hammond, the Editor next presents a faithful translation of a small German tract, printed at Erlangen about the year 1744. The Sir Levet Hanson, whose name occurs in the *Northern Courts*, vol. ii. chap. v. assured the Editor, that he had other reasons for believing that the Duke of Gloucester, son to Queen Anne and George Prince of Denmark, was destroyed by slow poison. He mentioned the same opinion in company with the first characters, British and Swedish, at Stockholm, and said he believed the document to contain a narrative of facts. At all events, whatever opinion may be formed of its historical accuracy, the character given of Prince Frederick of Wales, to whom it was addressed, renders it worthy of preservation.

An Old Courtier to a Young Prince.

“ In whatever hour this MS. may reach your hand, my Prince, his, by whom it was written, will be cold and inanimate. I do not ask you to bestow

a tear on hearing of my death; nor wish you to erect even the smallest memorial to tell posterity *I have lived*. All I entreat of you is, that in the midst of the giddy career of youthful passions, you will sometimes steal an hour from dissipation, devote it to sober meditation, and calmly reflect on the important truths I am about unfolding. I shall first display the leading features of those political intrigues wherein I have been consulted and employed, by which the fortunes of the House of Brunswick have been so greatly improved. May their effect be to convince Your Highness, that the only mode to hold securely that glorious prize, the English Crown, is, by acting on principles directly opposite to those which led to the banishment of the late King James. I shall trace to their source those deplorable occurrences which blasted your paternal grandmother in the flower of her days, and consigned her to a prison-house; that filled the Court of Hanover with worthless parasites, base minions, and lewd and wasteful women; by which vices the prospect of succession to the Throne of England was so nearly lost. You have now attained an age that renders these communications less improper, than when you first so eagerly importuned me. It is for your future guidance rather than your present amusement, or the gratification of a prurient curiosity, that I comply. To be useful, I must be sincere. Be you, my Prince, discreet.

“ In my sixteenth year, I was placed as a favourite page and amanuensis with the Electress Sophia, then Duchess of Brunswick. It was your fate, my Prince, to have known that wonderful woman only in her dotage, when time had stripped her of every vestige of beauty, when her intellectual powers bore the stamp of decay, and her manners had lost that polish and elegance which once commanded the homage of all Europe. It was mine to witness the meridian splendour of her talents, and to have

contemplated that secret misery which, mistress as she was of the art of dissimulation, and able to conceal or to control her passions and inclinations, she had not address to hide from my observation.

“That Lady was nursed in the school of adversity. To you, I need not recapitulate the misfortunes which overwhelmed her royal parents. Her maternal grandmother, Mary Queen of Scotland, perished untimely by the axe. She (Sophia) was in the bloom of youth, when her cousin Charles the First died by the hand of an executioner. She acted generously towards his sons, the Princes Charles and James, during their exile; assisting them with money and credit to the very utmost of her power; and she contributed, by her able advice, and correspondence in England and Scotland, very materially towards effecting the Restoration. She was admirably calculated to govern a nation, or adorn a court; but Brunswick was too small a theatre for so great an actress. The elegance of her manners, the depth of her learning, her wisdom, eloquence, and ready wit; her resolution under adversity, and her unconquerable vivacity—procured her the appellation of *the merry debonair*; and, chiefly through her credit and influence, her husband Ernest-Augustus was called *the gentleman* of Germany.

“She was mistress of seven languages. I have, in a single day, copied letters written by that Princess in Latin, English, Italian, French, German, and Dutch. She wrote equally fluently and grammatically in each language. Whilst this Princess excited my amazement by the display of her various talents, she lost my confidence, respect, and esteem; for her want of sincerity and candour was no less conspicuous than her talents were brilliant.

“The cause of the Electress Sophia’s taking up so inveterate a dislike to James king of England, existed in his, and his brother Charles, having

broken all their pecuniary engagements made in the hour of adversity, for which that Princess had been collateral security. For their relief she had generously pledged some family jewels, which had belonged to her great-grandmother Mary Queen of France and Scotland. These were suffered to be forfeited; and when Charles II. was restored, he had neither the gratitude nor honesty to indemnify her for these losses, nor scarcely to thank her for past kindnesses.

“ I have frequently copied her letters addressed to James the Second, to the young Duke of Monmouth, and to William Prince of Orange, professing the warmest respect for each, whilst she was false to all, and betraying their plots to each other.

“ The Princess had no inconsiderable share in effecting the destruction of the unhappy Duke. Next, in conjunction with the Prince of Orange, she stimulated King James to those acts of despotism which were expected to lead to his dethronement; and too well were they calculated to produce that end. The great cause of her uncommon attention and devotion to the Prince of Orange, was her ardent wish to raise the Dukedom to the rank of an Electorate.

“ The greatest cause of the Princess Sophia's dislike to James II. and his children, was his marriage with the daughter of Mr. Hyde, who was afterwards created Lord Clarendon, and whose mother was a tub-carrier to a London brewer. I knew that gentleman well; and a keen politician he was. The Electress, though all condescension to her inferiors, was sufficiently haughty to her equals. Proud of the mingled stream of imperial and royal blood which flowed in her veins, her pride was outraged by a match so much below the rank of the Duke. She never countenanced the Consort of George William, Duke of Zell, on account of his

unequal marriage; and it was to that antipathy all the misery which befel her devoted daughter-in-law, Sophia-Dorothea, might fairly be attributed.

“Alluding to the alliance extorted by Mr. Hyde, she said in my presence, ‘The sons of King Charles have suffered more dishonour in regaining the throne of England, than their father by losing his life on a scaffold.’ The moment the Prince of Orange entrusted the Electress with his designs on the English throne, I have no doubt but she made up her mind to second his efforts, with the view to secure the crown for herself, or her descendants. And as William had no passions,—no tender attachment to any female,—she rejoiced at the very great probability there was of his dying without issue.

“Whilst this great conspiracy was in process, and the result was yet uncertain, this Princess wrote the most affectionate letters to King James, his Queen, and various other royal personages, reprobating in the severest terms the perfidious conduct of Churchill and his associates. When James had abdicated a throne he had dishonoured, and the powerful Whigs seemed likely to sustain the throne, and to be supported by the nation, the Electress gradually relaxed, till she became apparently a violent Whig.

“You may rely that the young Duke of Gloucester, the son of Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark, was destroyed by poison, administered at the instigation of some enemy, who wished to cut off the adopted heir to a revolutionary throne. Doctor R—— has been named to me as the person who was employed by a certain monarch to remove that obstacle to his views. The sum of twenty thousand guineas was the price of that foul murder. Such are the effects of ambition, and the perils which await on Royalty. It must not, however, be forgotten, that the health of the child had

always been delicate, and his limbs were uncommonly small for a boy of his age.

“ I asked Brandershagen once, what he thought of the opportune death of the Prince; and if he, who had made so many journeys to London to inquire after the health of Queen Anne, had any *hand* in producing that event? The next time I saw the Princess, I was rebuked in a way I have never forgotten. By whose orders the Prince was poisoned, I know not; but that the fact was so, I am as perfectly convinced, as I am of the child's death.

“ I assure you, from personal knowledge, I can with truth assert, that the same head which devised and prompted the rash and desperate enterprise in which the young Duke of Monmouth ignominiously perished, began that intrigue with Churchill, and others of James's treacherous counsellors and servants, which led to the expulsion of the King, and the rejection of his children.

“ To produce this extraordinary event, my Prince, many odious crimes were planned and perpetrated, which would have covered the conspirators and perpetrators with ruin and infamy, had the invasion failed. Your grandfather and grandmother, never, in their private conversation, called the great political change of 1688 by any other name than that of a *conquest*. Frederick the First, his Queen, and my honoured mistress Sophia-Charlotte, gave it that appellation. The Jew banker, Schwartzau, of Amsterdam, advanced four hundred thousand ducats to enable Prince William to execute the projected invasion of England. The Electress was enraged when she heard of the conditions which the Whigs had imposed upon the Stadtholder. She afterwards said, in my hearing, to King William, ‘ What! were the rascals not contented that Your Majesty saved their necks? Did the traitors dare to make any stipulation?—’ It would have been

bad policy in me, Madam,' replied the King, 'not to have left them a retreat. They began to talk of prescribing the conduct of the Crown in many essential prerogatives,—of abrogating the power of declaring war or making peace,—of calling annual Parliaments, and enacting other democratic laws. I cut the matter short, by telling them, that rather than wear the crown on such conditions, I would give up the contest, and leave them to establish whatever form of government they pleased.' This fact accounts for the apparent want of wisdom in the leading characters who overturned the throne of James. The republicans were equally disgusted and disappointed. The temporizing Whigs were accused by the Tories of having accepted worse terms of a *foreign usurper*, than they might have obtained from their native Monarch; and by the democrats, reproached for having rescued the sceptre from a native bigot, to place it in the hands of a foreign despot. During the life of Queen Anne, the government of England was an oligarchy, exercised under the mask of monarchy. She had no will of her own; if she *had* possessed the sovereignty, she would have restored it to her father or her brother. The Electress Sophia was always of this opinion, and her eagerness to prevent that occurrence led her to sound King William respecting excluding *Lady Anne* and her offspring; at the same time, her eagerness to grasp the English sceptre unquestionably had a great influence on her conduct. I passed the sea more than fifty times, for no other purpose than to glean from the attendants and the medical gentlemen attached to the Princess, afterwards Queen Anne, all the intelligence I could obtain relative to the health of her son, the Duke of Gloucester, and latterly of the Queen. The instructions given to me by my Mistress were marked by all the minuteness of medical reports. Nothing escaped her diligent search after

bodily infirmities. The service was truly irksome. I was laughed at in the palace, and so mortified, that I should have resigned my place, rather than have endured the mortifications I encountered, if Doctor B——h——n had not kindly undertaken that unpleasant duty.

“ In our gay and sensual Court at Hanover, King William was the standing jest of all the ladies, not excepting the Electress. Her Highness used often to say, that the Princess Mary had married without obtaining a husband. Before there was any prospect of those great events which afterwards ensued, Sophia used to say, in a jocular tone, that except the Lady played false, there would be no fruit from *that* union. I am proceeding, I know, rather desultorily with my narrative, but I must catch recollections as they arise. When King William died, I remember her asking Doctor B——h——n, who was present when the royal corse was opened, if the deceased Prince did not labour under some secret infirmity? who instantly answered in the affirmative. I ought before this to have remarked, that the aversion of William to the Princess Anne arose from her having, some time before the death of Monmouth, ventured to tell to her father her opinion of the treacherous part the Prince of Orange was acting. She accused him of having tempted the young man, by his secret agents, into a premature rebellion, and next betrayed him to the King. These affronts William never forgave; and if he could, he willingly would have excluded the Princess Anne, and nominated the Princess Sophia and her descendants, as successors to the English throne.

“ The Princess impoverished her husband, and drained the Duchy, to find money to pay her emissaries, and to buy partisans in England. Immense were the sums she thus raised and dissipated. She had instruments of all sorts, male and female;

ecclesiastics, lawyers, soldiers, tradesmen, poets, authors, nobles, and menials. Hanover was, for successive years, crowded with projectors and adventurers of all degrees and nations. By many she was plundered and deceived; but so inveterate was the habit become of employing and listening to spies, that she seemed to have no enjoyment when they were all absent on duty. Some of those characters were possessed of great talents, and acted apparently from honourable feelings; but far the greater portion were the veriest miscreants in nature. One day, when she gave a purse of gold to an emissary, who lay under the imputation of being also an assassin, the Duke said to her, ‘I really wonder, my dear Sophia, you are not afraid to trust yourself in the reach of such devils as you employ.’ ‘So I should,’ she replied, ‘if I thought they could gain more by murdering me; but you have often found, that *interest* binds a knave as strong as honour holds the gentleman.’ She cherished a bad opinion of mankind; and often declared, that there never lived a public man in any country who might not be corrupted, if his leading passion was once discovered.

“The murder of Count Konigsmark; the cruel imprisonment of the young and beautiful wife of the Electoral Prince; the coarseness of manners and laxity of morals which distinguished the present King in his early life; and the base profligacy of his ministers, his mistresses, his minions,—converted Hanover into an open mart for the sale of places and titles in England, long previous to the death of Queen Anne: and I am confident, if the same abuses had existed prior to the death of King William, and if the character of the Court of Hanover had been as deeply tainted, it would not have been possible to have carried the Act of Settlement in favour of Princess Sophia.

“This Princess appeared to me to plunge into

political intrigues to drown painful reflection, and to lose sight of her husband's irregularities, who was so gross in his amours, that he made his wife acquainted with his love-adventures. One day, when the Electress knew the Elector was engaged in a private conversation with Madame de Platen, her husband, the Elector's chief minister, entered the room, and asked me where the Elector was. Before I could reply, the Electress said, 'His Highness is in company with your wife; and as you *dare* not go home whilst he remains there, you may as well sit down and bear me company.' She cherished the most radical hatred against the husband and the wife; but, being aware of their influence, suppressed her resentment as far as in her power. On the other hand, the Elector, pleased with being left to pursue his pleasures uninterrupted by reproaches or complaints, permitted his Consort to act as she pleased in state matters, and was implicitly ruled by her opinions. Such was the state of the Court when your Royal Father was born.

"I have already stated, that if it had not been for the dread of throwing the Crown of England back to its hereditary claimants, the accession of Queen Anne could have been disputed, and perhaps prevented. The Stuart party were so pleased with the death of William, caused as it was by an accidental fall from his horse, which they construed as an act of justice inflicted by the hand of Providence, that they secretly hoped the new Queen, who possessed greater sensibility of heart than her deceased sister, would give up a sceptre, which they calculated she wanted resolution to wield. The Princess Sophia was with difficulty restrained from making an attempt to oppose Queen Anne's accession. Had she persevered, she would for ever have cut off the hopes and prospects of herself and son. The reign of that mild, passive, good-natured

Princess, was almost incessantly disturbed by machinations set on foot by the Hanoverian and the Papal factions.

“As your Father attained to man’s estate, that dislike which grew with his strength against *his* father, burnt unquenchably fierce: nor was it to be wondered at, since he never had experienced any portion of a father’s love. He, therefore, naturally enough, attached himself to the Princess Sophia, who stood before the father, as Heiress to the Crown. As old age increased her infirmities, the eagerness to reign grew more and more strong; at the same time, the danger of losing the succession, by the growing inclination of Queen Anne to restore the expatriated family, became more evident. Unknown to her son, the Princess Sophia instigated the Electoral Prince your father to demand permission from Queen Anne for him to take his seat in the House of Lords as Duke of Cambridge. This imprudent measure, which was construed by the Tories as the commencement of a plot to *dethrone* the Queen, gave rise to so much additional dislike to the House of Brunswick, that Anne consented that Lord B—— should inform her brother, it was her last wish to cut off the Hanoverian succession. The overture was accordingly made; and the moderate Whigs were prepared to have supported the measure, if the hereditary claimant of the crown would have openly renounced the Catholic religion, and had agreed to a Bill of Rights that was ready prepared, and more favourable to the popular cause than the bungling bargain made by those who had invited the Prince of Orange to land with a powerful army in the island. If the titular king had acceded to those conditions, no earthly power could have kept him out; for the corrupt practices of the Court of Hanover, and the envenomed rancour of domestic discord, had lowered the character and influence of the House of Brunswick. The

Princess Sophia was become old and feeble; her son was any thing but popular; and just as she was looking out for news of Queen Anne's death, her own dissolution put an end to her hopes and her existence.

“Owing to the weak intellects of the titular king of England, and the strength of his religious prejudices, all the hopes of his partisans failed of preventing the peaceable accession of your Grandfather, who carried over with him to England his ministers, his minions, and his mistresses, who carried on in London the same nefarious traffic in places and titles, which had created so much odium and disgust in Hanover.

“That great statesman and philosopher, Leibnitz, foresaw the danger which menaced the Hanoverian king. He was at Vienna when the death of Queen Anne was announced. His regard for that monarch was sincere and disinterested. He dared to tell him those truths which scarcely any other tongue durst utter. He wrote a memorial, descriptive of the genius of the English nation, and the best means of preserving the throne: in the course of which, he advised the King to restore your ill-fated Grandmother to her rank and liberty; to dismiss nearly all his old courtiers and mistresses; to treat his son, your father, with more affection; and strive to gain the affection of his subjects, by extending and confirming their liberties; and endeavour to secure his throne, by rendering it the interest of the nation to support his claims. This freedom lost the honest Leibnitz the favour of the King. He lingered two years, neglected and forgotten. When that great man died, he was interred with as little ceremony as if he had been one of the King's menials. Such, my Prince, was the reward which his zeal and loyalty received.

“The rebellion that broke out almost immediately after your Grandfather's ascending the

throne of England, shews how wide the ramifications of foes had spread, and how well founded had been the confidence of the partisans of the Stuarts. Rest assured, my Prince, the danger is not over. Your father may act as a wise and just king, but he will never become a popular monarch. Even now, whilst I write, I feel convinced, that new combinations are on foot, to wrest the sceptre from your house. Removed, as you stand, from political power, it is not in your power to effect any favourable change in the politics of the Crown. But still, the eyes of all Europe are fixed upon you. Beware then of corrupt flatterers;—keep a strict guard on your conduct in Hanover. Above all things, beware of mingling yourself with either faction. You possess great personal advantages; are young, generous, open-hearted, and candid. Study from the best models the language, laws, and manners, of your future subjects. Remember the fate of James. Shun all despotic acts, and keep true to constitutional principles. Depend upon it, that there is no throne so truly safe as that which is founded on freedom, and supported by the people's love. If I know you at all, you are in your heart and soul friendly to freedom. Persevere in those principles; and if, in due season, you should, as I hope you will, ascend the British throne, you will become the greatest monarch in the world; and will have nothing to fear from a rival, so much your inferior in every great and social quality. If, unhappily, you should never attain that envied station, you will still be a great Prince, and the Hanoverians under your genial sway will become a free and happy people.

“ Having thus, as well as in my power, thrown together some facts which may be useful to you, I have next the painful task of discharging the rest of my promise, and relating the origin of your unhappy Grandmother's misfortune.”

CHAPTER V.

Investigation of the Posthumous German Work.—Biographical Sketches relative to the late Brigadier-general Sir Levet Hansen, Chamberlain to the Duke of Modena.—Portraiture of the Princess Mary of Este, Consort to James II. at 14 years of age.—Original Anecdotes respecting Horace Walpole, Cardinal York, Duke of Modena, Warren Hastings.—Character of George II. by Frederick the Great.—Narrative respecting the Tory Intrigues of 1745.—Lord L——'s Ancestors in the Stuarts' interest.—Original Anecdotes concerning Cardinal York.—Probable Origin of the late King's Pension to Cardinal York.—Characteristic Sketches of a young Secretary of Legation: Anecdotes respecting him.—Sir Levet Hansen's Correspondence with Warren Hastings —Curious Traditions.—King Charles's Paintings: how disposed of.—Anecdotes of Warren Hastings, Lord L——, and Cardinal York.—Of Mrs. Hastings.—A grave Rebuke.—A severe Repartee.—Character of Frederick Prince of Wales and Lord Bolingbroke.—Reflections on the German MS.—Sir Levet Hansen's bad Character of Political Lawyers.—Belsham's Character of Frederick Prince of Wales;—of the Opposition of 1751.—A PATRIOT KING portrayed.—Probable Source of the Intercourse between the Prince and Lord Bolingbroke examined: Death and obscure Funeral of the latter.

SOME few of the facts stated in the small work whence the preceding extracts were taken and translated, are to be found in the memoirs of Brandenburg, written by Frederick the Great; but they had been printed many years previous to the appearance of that celebrated work. The bold accu-

sations levelled at the character of the Princess Sophia of Hanover, as respects her political intrigues, are fully corroborated by Bishop Burnet, and other contemporary authorities, which state, that the Stadtholder made use of the Duchess of Hanover, to induce her husband Ernest Augustus to withdraw from his military engagements with Louis XIV. The bribe held forth to tempt his cupidity, was the succession to the English crown; and as this was offered whilst James II. sat on the throne, our native histories afford some corroboration to the imputations, serious as they are. The insinuation, that the Princess Sophia helped to sacrifice the Duke of Monmouth, would appear quite absurd, were it not that the author has also asserted, that Charles II. was privately married to his mother; a fact which is at variance with the confession made by the unhappy duke on the scaffold where he perished.

The Mr. Hyde mentioned in this narrative, was the celebrated Lawrence Hyde, who afterwards became Lord Chancellor of England, and whose daughter married the Duke of York. This Lord Clarendon had been dead nearly fifty years, at the time when this MS. appears to have been written; consequently, the writer must have been at a very advanced age.

The most extraordinary features of all, are the accounts given of the secret poisoning of the young Duke of Gloucester,—the price paid for the perpetration of that foul crime, and the name of the asserted murderer. On these delicate and important topics the Editor has no decided opinion to express, farther than the admission, that the more serious is the imputation, the more cautious a reader ought to be in giving them credit: and this feeling renders it more particularly his duty, candidly and impartially to put his readers in possession of all the means of forming a correct opinion in his power

to impart. Those who are acquainted with the shackled state of literature, in countries where the press is subjected to a censor, know that it is the universal custom to print dubious or forbidden tracts, in separate sheets, or in very small portions, in order, if the edition should be seized, that the loss should not be heavy. This appeared to have been the plan pursued with the German work in question, which was printed in parts, and probably with a fictitious name attached. It appeared soon after the death of the Prince, to whom it was addressed; and although written by a very old man, the terms of admiration in which he speaks of the open, generous, and candid disposition of Prince Frederick, are scarcely less warm and glowing than the character drawn by the partial hand of the elegant poet Mr. Hammond. It should not be lost sight of by the reflecting reader, who may wish to attain a more correct judgment of the character of the Father of George III. that the *young courtier*, by whom that panegyric was written, had every thing to hope from the future favour of the prince he praised; whilst, in a MS. that was not intended to be published till after the death of the *old courtier*, no selfish motive is imputable. These facts have a strong tendency to prove, if they do not absolutely establish, the just pretensions of the Father of George III. to a much more honourable estimation in the opinion of mankind, than the envenomed spirit of political animosity has hitherto allowed to his memory. The author of this German work has not indeed accused King William, or the Princess Sophia of Hanover, of having suborned the medical person denounced as a secret poisoner, and the hired murderer of the presumptive heir to the throne of England; but the inferences point that way; and his meaning scarcely admits any other construction, than that one or both those persons were concerned in the imputed crime.

The small dimensions of a pair of boots, that are yet preserved in the Ashmolean museum, Oxford, which that young prince is said to have worn just before his death, demonstrate, if the premises are correct, that in the eleventh year of his age he had not attained the stature or size of limbs of a robust child of only half his age. He was the only survivor of seventeen children borne by Queen Anne; which extraordinary mortality, without the aid of any criminal agency, is fully competent to account for his premature death.

It might be supposed, that the German work had been written by some friend to the Stuarts, if the author had not so strenuously recommended the Prince of Wales to widen the basis of the people's liberty, and aim at sustaining the throne, if it should ever fall to his lot, by securing the love and confidence of his subjects. The author has nowhere introduced a sentence in favour of *divine right* and *passive obedience*, which, if he had been a Jacobite, would probably have been found profusely sprinkled throughout his pages: and if he had stood in secret connection with the Stuarts, and wished to have effected the ruin of the young Prince, to whom he appears to have been a preceptor, he would probably have given him advice of an opposite tendency: on the other hand, it must be admitted, that the studied rancour with which the author has treated the person and character of William III. is difficult to account for in any other way.

Sir Levet Hansen himself appeared decisively of opinion, that the Duke of Gloucester was destroyed by slow poison. He affirmed, that previous to his going on the Continent to reside, he was impressed with the same opinion which had been instilled into his mind when young. He was born in Yorkshire; and either himself, his father, or both, had studied the law, and followed it as a profession. What was the cause of Mr. Hansen quitting his native

country, or by what train of circumstances he found his way to the court of Modena, cannot, at present, be explained. It was there he acquired the rank of brigadier-general, without ever having served a single day in any regiment, or in any rank; and there too he had the golden key bestowed as Chamberlain of the Court. Those certainly were *uncommon* honours, when considered as falling on a private English gentleman, and a *Protestant*. The last Duke of Modena, by whom those honours were conferred, obtained for his English favourite, admission into an equestrian order, and the star and ribbon of a commander. These facts announce the high degree of favour he enjoyed; and in 1808, Sir Levet Hansen possessed many testimonials, indicative of the highest degree of confidence and esteem. Whether those marks of favour ought to be regarded as honourable testimonials of private worth, or as badges of disgrace, must depend on circumstances which lie beyond the reach of the Editor's knowledge.

The *old courtier*, in his advice to Frederick Prince of Wales, has asserted, that the greatest cause of offence given to the Princess Sophia, his first cousin, by James II. was his marriage with the daughter of Mr. Hyde, afterwards Earl of Clarendon. His second marriage, in 1673, was with the young, beautiful, and *reluctant* Princess Mary of Este,* daughter of the Duke and Duchess of

* This Princess MARY of Este appeared at this time to be about fourteen years of age; she was tall, and admirably shaped: her complexion was of the last fairness; her hair as black as jet; so were her eye-brows and her eyes; but the latter so full of light and sweetness, that they did dazzle and charm too: there seemed given to them from nature, sovereign power; and in the whole turn of her face, which was the most graceful that could be framed, there were all the features, all the beauty, and all that could be great and charming in any human creature. To Calais she came at last, in company of her mother, her uncle,

Modena: and the reigning Prince, whom Sir Levet Hansen during many years served as Chamberlain, was a descendant from the same family as the young and beautiful princess just mentioned.

In the course of that intimacy and daily intercourse, which subsisted in 1808 between the Editor and Sir Levet Hansen, the latter related many strange and almost incredible anecdotes, relative to the means whereby a certain great power had acquired its ascendancy in Italy; and which he affirmed he had derived from the lips of his Italian sovereign, his courtiers, or from family records and autograph letters. By those imputed delinquencies, the course of nature was sometimes counteracted; in others accelerated: now an heir suddenly died; then another as unexpectedly appeared: Princesses were bestowed in marriage, whose bed was predestined to barrenness, that the dominions of the Prince her husband might, agreeably to the marriage articles, devolve to the lady's family; or, where that concession could not be obtained, shortly after the birth of a son or daughter, the father opportunely died; and a long minority generally afforded the means of consummating the end and policy of the great power in question.

and all who came with her out of Italy; embarked in the *Catherine Yacht*; whence, in a few hours, they arrived at Dover, upon the sands: whereof the Duke, her husband, did attend her; and upon her landing, she took possession of his heart as well as of his arms, and was conducted by him to her lodging; where, after she had reposed herself, he led his Duchess into the great room before his bedchamber, and there, in the presence of all the lords who attended him from London, and of all the country gentlemen who came to see him, and what the room could contain of the citizens of Dover, married again his wife, after the form of the church of England, by Dr. Nathanael Crew, at that time bishop of Durham; after which, and they had supped together, they were put to bed, for the final consummation of this undertaking.—Vide Lord Peterborough's narrative of the Duke of York's second marriage.

Some of those royal secrets, communicated to the Editor of the Ex-Chamberlain of the Court of Modena, have since been published by Sir Nathanael Wraxhall, who has been assailed by all the *curs* and *mongrels* of the critic race, and his veracity openly impeached; whilst the same facts that have been so impudently denied in this island, are still recognized as indisputable truths by those who possess the best possible means of forming a just decision.

Sir Levet Hansen repeatedly declared, that the Duke of Modena always accused Doctor R—— of having poisoned the son and heir of Queen Anne; and he read various extracts from letters, and related a great variety of anecdotes, the tendency of which was to prove, that the Prince in question was murdered, to make way for the Electress Sophia: he went further, and imputed the lethargic symptoms which preceded the death of Queen Anne to similar expedients. When it was observed to the narrator, that the Princess Sophia could not, by possibility, have been concerned with the death of Queen Anne: in reply he remarked, that all the dirty work of Courts is done by agency; and the same instruments whom Sophia had employed, were equally well qualified to serve her successor; and that there was nothing more shocking to sensibility, nor revolting to humanity, in supposing either the son, the mother, or both, to have perished untimely and through treachery, than to believe that George the First had ever cherished the horrid and unnatural design of secretly trepanning his son and heir, and sending him to the plantations, *to be no more heard of*. These arguments were met by opposing the greater probability there was—admitting that the lives of the young Duke, or his mother Queen Anne, or either of them, had been shortened by poison—of the crime having proceeded from the enmity of the Jacobites, than from a family whose

succession had been secured by Acts of Parliament; and whose government would have been rejected with horror by the whole nation, if it could have been proved, that such was their impatience to reign, they had recourse to murder, to accelerate its commencement.

Sir Levet, in his usual good-humoured manner, when he dissented from the opinion of a friend, or a guest, (which was not frequent,) shook his head, and smiling, said, that the veracity of Sir Horace Walpole was unimpeached and unimpeachable; that he (Sir Levet) had known him more than half a century, and well remembered, before he went to College, having heard Horace Walpole mention the same facts, and almost in the same words. He said, that all, or nearly all, the old courtiers of Anspach, Berlin, and Brunswick, with whom he had conversed, expressed opinions in unison with the contents of the Posthumous work; and Sir Levet also affirmed, that Mr. Warren Hastings, the Ex-Governor of India, had, in his conversations, as well as his letters, mentioned many particulars relative to the state of the public mind at the Queen's death, and during the two succeeding reigns, which had convinced them that a vast majority of the *old English families* were decidedly adverse to the Hanoverian succession, from the ill-repute of the family, the misery of their poor vassals, and the corruption that every where prevailed in the Electorate; and that nothing prevented the restoration of the Stuarts but the *prejudices* of the vulgar.

“It was indeed a very happy prejudice, and it proved the salvation of the nation,” said Mr. — to Sir Levet; “for so inveterate was the attachment of that dynasty to despotic rule, that if they had re-ascended the throne, and sworn ever so solemnly to rule constitutionally, they would have observed their engagement no longer than till they had felt their power competent to protect their violating its

spirit, and re-establishing popery and slavery." Sir Levet said, that nothing was more clear than the design of George II. to rule despotically; and that he fully believed that Frederick the Great had said no more of that unamiable monarch, in imputing that design to him, than was true.* If Frederick

* *Anecdote of George II. related by Frederick the Great.*

"England had no hand in this war; but then she was on the point of being equally shaken by domestic troubles. George II. had formed the scheme of rendering himself absolute in Great Britain: but this was not a thing to be compassed by open force; but privately, and by by-methods. To introduce the excise in England, and fetter the nation, would have been one and the same thing; with which he might have augmented his forces, and confirmed his power. Walpole having proposed the introduction of the excise to some members of parliament, on whom he thought he might depend, they declared, that what pay they received from him was for subscribing to their usual run of extravagances, and not to such an extraordinary one as that for which he now required their votes. Notwithstanding these representations, Walpole moved the affair in parliament; and harangued with so much eloquence, as to carry his point, in spite of Pulteney and the cabal which opposed the court: his victory appeared so complete, that the bill for the excise passed by a great majority. The next day, there had like to have been an insurrection in the city: the principal traders addressed the King, to desire the suppression of the bill. Though care had been taken to surround the house with guards, the populace gathered about it in great numbers, filled the air with their seditious cries, and even began to insult the king's officers; inso-much, that nothing was wanting but a head, to make an open rebellion. Walpole, who now saw that this was like to become a serious affair, thought it high time to pull in. He immediately cancelled the bill, and issued from the parliament disguised in an old cloak, and crying out, *Liberty, liberty, and no excise!* He found the king at St. James's, arming himself cap-a-pie: he had already put on the beaver he had worn at Malplaquet; was trying the sword with which he had fought at Oudenarde; and was putting himself at the head of his guards, assembled in the court of the palace, in order to support with firmness his excise scheme. Walpole had much ado to moderate his impetuosity: he represented to him, with all the generous boldness of an Englishman attached to his master, that this was no time for fighting; but to choose between the bill and the crown. At

Prince of Wales had lived, he thought that prince would not have deceived the hopes of the nation; but whilst he admitted that as a probability, he insisted that the whole power and influence of the Crown, during the two first reigns of the House of Brunswick, had been quite as despotic, as far as *policy* was concerned, as the reigns of the Stuarts; and that the only difference lay in their *process*; the one acting with open daring on the mingled plea of divine and hereditary right, and the other by sap and mine,—by corrupting and debasing the genius of the nation, through the universal corruption disseminated by a bribed and pensioned House of Commons. Mr. ——— remarked to Sir Levet, that he had lived so long in Italy, under the protection of a prince connected by blood with the House of Stuart, who was an hereditary enemy to the House of Hanover, that he seemed to have imbibed all their prejudices: this imputation he positively denied. Adverting to the general dislike produced by the stiff and haughty manners of the first and second course of princes, he said, the great *landed interest* was rapidly ripening for a revolution, whilst Walpole was maturing his plans to render the Crown absolute; and that, if the rebellion of 1745 had been delayed till after the death of Frederick, it would have succeeded. Sir Levet Hansen then instanced the politics of the Jenkinsons, who, he asserted, had been numbered amongst the staunchest adherents of the Stuarts during the reigns of Anne, and the first two Georges; and whose representative, without any

length, the excise scheme fell to the ground; and the king, greatly dissatisfied with his parliament, began to think more reservedly of his authority, of which he had like to have made so sad a trial. It was these domestic troubles which hindered England from intermeddling this time in the war of Germany.”—*Vide Memoirs of the House of Brandenburg*, pp. 89, 90, 91.

sacrifice of political principles, had become a cabinet minister to George III. as a proof that the House of Brunswick had at all times been as fond of absolute sway as the Stuarts, and that the main difference lay in the *mode* by which the two rival dynasties had, in his opinion, operated one common end. Struck by Sir Levet's allusion to the family of Lord Liverpool, as having been numbered amongst the enemies of the House of Brunswick, and curious to learn on what ground he had ventured to make such an allusion, Mr. ——— requested, if he had no objection to afford it, to favour him with an explanation of his assertion, that his Lordship's ancestors had, so recently as 1745, been concerned in the machinations carried on for effecting the restoration of the Stuarts. "No other," replied the knight, "than the authority of Cardinal York, and the late Duke of Modena; and I should consider it reflected the highest honour upon Lord Liverpool, if, in consequence of the old attachment of his family to that ill-fated house, he had been the instigator of the most munificent and graceful act of the present reign; i. e. the conferring a pension upon the last heir male of that illustrious race."—"These are important historical facts, Sir Levet," observed Mr. ———: "I envy you the pleasure of having personally known that prince. How did he feel, how express himself, when the benevolent intention of George III. was communicated?" Sir Levet replied, "The Prince Cardinal was so powerfully affected, he could not speak at all! He was old and indigent, and the supply arrived when his personal wants, though few, were no longer sure of being provided for. He pressed the hand of the young man by whom the King's letter had been presented, and retired to ruminate on the noble gift, and prepare a suitable answer to the giver." Sir Levet's *manner* of recital gave additional interest to the narrative, which the pen can-

not convey; but whilst he praised the monarch, he censured his messenger, saying, "You all know young O—k—y, our precious secretary of l—t—n at this Court, of whose folly and vagaries you hear so much reported every day, and who stripped at Barbier's, *à la Broughton*, to box with Baron W—g—l last week! *That* individual was the person selected to announce to the last male heir of the royal race of Stuarts, the noble sentiments of the King of Great Britain! Young O—k—y," continued Sir Levet, "was attending the Congress at Ratisbon, when this important mission was entrusted to his hands. It would have been much more becoming, (continued he,) to have sent the packet by Mr. Schaw, or any of the oldest and most respected of the King's state messengers." Sir Levet then stated, that he had frequently been in company with the Cardinal, who invariably spoke with affection of the English nation, and with particular respect of George III. whom he said the Cardinal had expressed a strong desire to see, as well as all the rest of the reigning family. All ambition, all regret, all painful recollections of fallen greatness and disappointed hopes, seemed to have expired, if ever they had existed, in his tranquil bosom. The tones of his voice, the expression of his features, his language, sentiments, all were in unison, all plaintive and passive; he seemed wholly resigned to his fate, and, if he repined at all, it was that he had lived so long. Sir Levet Hansen was then asked, if he had mentioned the German publication to the Cardinal; and if so, what was his opinion of its claim to credence? "I had not, at that time, seen the book you mention," he replied: "it was not till after the French had taken possession of Modena, that I went to reside at Erlangen; and it was in the latter city I first met with that curious work, of which I never saw, nor could ever hear, of another copy." Mr. — then asked him, how so

reserved a character as Cardinal York came to mention the Jenkinsons amongst the adherents of his house? and whether the Cardinal was in the habit of conversing upon political topics? To these questions Sir Levet said in reply, that his situation at the court of the Cardinal's relation, the Duke of Modena, afforded him opportunities of hearing the familiar conversations between those interesting personages. "They were once speaking of Warren Hastings; when the Duke turned to me, and asked if he had not heard me name him as one of my friends and correspondents? To this I answered in the affirmative. The Cardinal, who was well versed in English history, inquired if Mr. Hastings was well born and educated, or merely a fortunate political adventurer?" Sir Levet Hansen having been many years a friend and correspondent of the celebrated character in question, told those princes, that Mr. Warren Hastings was descended from a noble family of that name; but the paternal estates having been dissipated by his grandfather, and his father dying young, Mr. Hastings had been indebted to two old and opulent families of Oxfordshire, named Cope and Jenkinson, for the liberal education he received, and the patronage which led to his employ and preferment in India. Upon hearing those names, Cardinal York said to the Duke of Modena, "Amongst the number of English gentlemen who encouraged the *unhappy expedition* of 1745, was one of that name, a neighbour of Lord Clarendon's; and the Lord Hawkesbury, who now holds so many employments at Court, is probably a son or grandson of his."

In his next letter to the Governor, Sir Levet Hansen said he stated the conversation; and inquired what had become of those fine Italian and Flemish paintings which once belonged to King Charles's collection,—had next passed into the hands of Mr. Speaker Lenthal, who resided at

Burford, in Oxfordshire,—and which, on the restoration, were resigned to the Earl of Clarendon, (Mr. Lawrence Hyde,) as the price of exemption from royal vengeance?

Once every three months those gentlemen interchanged letters; and when Mr. Hastings' answer arrived, it stated that he well remembered, in his youth, that the Copes, Jenkinsons, and other respectable families, were said to have been addicted to the Stuarts, and that secret meetings took place in the vicinity; and if the Prince's party had been supported, as was expected, by a rising in the southern provinces, he had heard his relations express their opinion that the Jenkinsons of Walcot, the Copes of Bruern Abbey, Bassets of Dean,* and other *Tory families* residing in the

* This conversation took place in 1808. The Editor was recalled from Sweden by the late Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, relative to the impending Swedish revolution; and Sir Levet Hansen gave him a letter of introduction to Governor Hastings, which, in the spring of 1809, he handed to the Ex-Governor, at his elegant villa at Daylesford. Mr. Hastings spoke of Sir Levet Hansen in terms of esteem and admiration, almost as ardent as Lord Orrery had applied to Bolingbroke: on which occasion, the editor was introduced to Mrs. Hastings, who, being a native of Erlangen, where Sir Levet Hansen had resided, her early history was well known to him; and he always mentioned her as a woman equally eminent for beauty and understanding. The editor, at this visit, mentioned the anecdotes relative to the Jenkinsons of Walcot. The governor smiled, and said, if the editor was fond of *antiquarian researches*, a neighbour of his, a D. D. as well as other *old standards* of the neighbouring forest, would feel equally gratified in administering food. Pursuing the clue thus given, Mr. — continued his pedestrian tour through those beautiful sylvan scenes, and found that tradition confirmed what Sir Levet had communicated in the capital of Sweden; and that Lord Cornbury, the Copes, Lacys, Basset of Dean, the *Jenkinsons*, and other families, had secret nocturnal meetings; that the *titular* Prince of Wales was currently reported to have met those, and other adherents to his cause, at Cornbury House, near Charlbury, in the year 1744 or 1745. Capps Lodge, near Burford, was also pointed out as another place of nocturnal rendezvous.

neighbourhood of Lord Cornbury's seat, and acting under his influence, would, in all probability, have drawn their swords against the House of Brunswick; but the feelings of the yeomanry, Mr. Hastings stated, were in direct opposition to that of the gentry, and so strongly, that he could not believe there was any rational chance of ultimate success, even if a powerful French army had been thrown upon the coast. Mr. Hastings, in the same letter, expressed his obligations to the family of Lord Hawkesbury, whose grandfather, Sir Robert Jenkinson, Bart. he said had represented the county of Oxford, on the strength of the *Tory interest*, in the Parliament of 1710. He spoke of Lord Hawkesbury in the warmest terms of panegyric, assuring Sir Levet, however widely many honourable gentlemen differed from his Lordship as to politics, he never heard one but what spoke of him as a polished gentleman, an elegant scholar, liberal and dignified in private life, most exemplary in his conduct as a husband and the head of a family; "which fine qualities," said Mr. Hastings, "confirmed and strengthened the favourable opinion of the reigning monarch, which the powerful influence of Lord Bute had first created."

Respecting the splendid paintings after which Sir Levet had inquired, Mr. Hastings, he said, had informed him, that after the estates of Lord Cornbury had been sold to the late Duke of Marlborough, they were dispersed; a part was sold, and the remainder sent to France to their unfortunate owner. Such was the reply which, according to Sir Levet Hansen's interesting narrative of past times, he received from Mr. Warren Hastings, touching the paintings that had belonged to Charles I. and the Tory principles of the ancestors of Lord Liverpool.

Sir Levet Hansen, continuing these pleasing communications, stated, that the late Governor Hastings,

in subsequent letters, mentioned his having communicated to Lord H—— the conversation between Cardinal York, the Duke of Modena, and himself, respecting the rebellion of 1745, who did not seem in the least sore; calmly observing, that those feelings of disaffection had principally arisen from the foreign birth and language, and the formal manners, of the two first kings; but the present Sovereign was a native prince, born and educated amongst his subjects, and in his language, education, and habits, completely amalgamated with the nation he governed. From this period, it seems, Sir Levet Hansen occasionally made mention of Cardinal York in his letters to Mr. Hastings. Prior to the grant of a pension by the late King, Sir Levet Hansen said he was the medium of conveying a bank-note of £1000 to the Cardinal, which had been transmitted from England for his use. The French had previously seized upon the Roman territories, and confiscated his revenues. Whence that donation proceeded, Sir Levet did not let fall a single word, nor did any one presume to ask; but, combining the whole train of circumstances, it is within the pale of probability, that the distressed and destitute condition of the last male heir of the royal house of Stuart, thus transmitted to the late Warren Hastings, found its way to the late monarch, either through Lord Hawkesbury, or by Mrs. Hastings' communications with the Queen.*

* A great deal of misrepresentation having gone abroad respecting Mrs. Hastings, the Editor takes this opportunity of stating, that the character given of her by Sir Levet Hansen, who had long resided at Erlangen, where she was born, bespoke the same generosity of heart and enlarged mind, as that lady afterwards displayed at Daylesford. She was truly and practically the Lady Bountiful of the village; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and securing the old and infirm against the inroads of want and misery. Some new and curious particulars of the early lives of the late Governor, and his relict, formerly the Baroness Von Imhoff, will be given in the future divisions of this publication.

At the same time, it is due to the character of Sir Levet Hansen, solemnly to aver, that the narrator never heard him use any expression, amounting even to an insinuation, that he had had the most remote concern in leading to that noble provision being granted by the King to Cardinal York. The only circumstance he can recollect, that wore any resemblance to such a conclusion, was a grave rebuke he bestowed on Mr. O—k—y, when that giddy and thoughtless young fellow was boasting of the compliments Cardinal York had paid him, on his pronunciation of the *French* language, and retailing every particular at a public table; on which occasion Sir Levet thus addressed him: “I am surprised Cardinal York did not borrow Garrick’s exclamation, and say to you, when you handed him the letter from the English Cæsar,—*Would he had sent it by a better messenger!*” Adding, after a short pause, “The act, Sir, was most noble and generous; but it has already been too much talked of. The relief that one gentleman grants to another is only valuable to a mind teeming with sensibility, in proportion to the delicacy with which that relief is administered, and the secrecy in which the friendly aid is enveloped. I had the honour, Sir, of many years’ intercourse with Cardinal York, and no man possessed finer feelings. I have also been presented at Court to your King and Master; and I am too well convinced of the unaffected purity and benevolence of his mind, not to be convinced, that the talk which has been made all over Europe concerning this occurrence, has not arisen from any lapse of good manners or delicate feelings on his part.”

Sir Levet Hansen, whether a Protestant or Catholic, was a rational Christian; and though naturally witty, and occasionally facetious, he was seldom personal, even where rudeness or ignorance called for chastisement. The young diplomatist

just alluded to, was one day amusing his dissipated comrades with ridiculing various passages in the Bible, particularly the exploits of Samson; and knowing the aversion the Knight had to such subjects, he began with an attempt at what he called a mathematical examination of the thickness of the *os frontis* of Goliath's scull, and the distance at which *little Davy* stood, in order to prove it was not *practicable* to drive a pebble with sufficient force to kill such a *thick-headed* Philistine. "What do you think on the subject, Sir Levet?" said the half-tipsy orator. The old Knight had sat nettling some time; and fixing a most expressive look at the young man, he said, "The question is unbecoming *you* to ask, or me to answer: but as you *have* pressed me so close, I will both candidly and explicitly tell you my thoughts. *Thick-headed* people, Sir, have generally *soft sculls*, *very soft sculls*; and if the scull of the *thick-headed* Philistine were as soft as that of a certain loquacious young fellow whom I have the honour of knowing, (smiling and bowing,) I do not see the least improbability in the narrative; for it must have been as *soft as dough*! What do *you* think of my solution of your problem, Sir?" The action was so admirably suited to the word,—the repartee was so deliberately uttered,—the good-natured sort of contempt felt by Sir Levet was so keenly expressed by his eyes and countenance—and the laugh it excited at the expense of the young courtier was so loud and long—that he sat sulky and silent, and no more presumed to assail one that knew so well how to meet and repel vulgar impertinence.

The early part of the reigns of George I. and II. and the character of Frederick Prince of Wales, father of George III. were frequently the subject of discussion at Sir Levet's evening parties. It was evident that he cherished neither esteem nor admiration of the character of those monarchs; but of

Prince Frederick he spoke with affectionate regret, saying he was the '*first gentleman*' of the family; yet, by one of those inconsistencies entwined with human nature, he applauded the writings of Horace Walpole, by whom the character of that Prince, as well as of his mother, his father, and his grandfather, had been calumniated: the cause of which probably existed in a similarity of pursuits, in equality of learning, and in personal attachment, heightened by the pleasure he felt to see the Courts of George I. and II. displayed by Walpole's pen in all the disgusting homeliness of truth. To this cause, and perhaps reasonably, might be imputed that respect for a Prince and for his libeller, which must otherwise appear difficult to reconcile.

Sir Levet Hansen steadily maintained his opinion that Lord Bolingbroke actually offered to set aside the Hanoverian succession, and place the hereditary heir of the Stuarts on the British throne, provided he would have renounced the Catholic religion, and have agreed to such a political constitution as should have repaired the great omissions which mark the character of the revolution of 1688: he declared he had heard the fact affirmed by those best able to form an accurate judgment, in which assertion he probably glanced at Cardinal York, and the Duke of Modena. The STUART PAPERS, which have latterly fallen into the possession of the House of Brunswick, have, no doubt, afforded those to whose perusal they have been entrusted, the means of ascertaining the truth or falsehood of the allegations contained in the *Old Courtier's* Legacy to a young Prince: but whether the truth will be suffered to transpire, time only can determine.

The character of Lord Bolingbroke, according to Sir Levet Hansen's opinion, will become "*white as it grows old*," till, regaining its native lustre, as

prejudices subside, and ignorance disappears, it will be revered by future ages, as one of the most brilliant contained in the British annals. Sir Levet was usually very severe in his comments on the character of *trading lawyers*. He said it was his opinion, that a mercenary lawyer, who had been accustomed for gain to defend or attack any and every opinion, was unfit for a JUDGE; and that it would be wiser to make the selection from those called *Chamber Counsel*. He compared the voracity of lawyers to the desolating progress of caterpillars, which destroy the verdure of spring, and the fruits of harvest: he used to say, the Stuarts ruled by priests, and the Hanoverians by *lawyers*; that the House of Lords was *blackened by their spawn*; that they were the betrayers of the people, the consumers of the revenue, the fabricators of shackles, the monopolizers of titles and honours; in fact, that they had taken the place formerly occupied by the pope and his myrmidons, pilaged the Crown of its estates and prerogatives, and sullied and polluted what they could not consume. These sentiments may appear unjust to some readers, as they are certainly harsh and severe; but, be they good or bad, they belonged to the gentleman to whom they are imputed; and it is essential to the due estimation of his opinions, that his character should be well understood. The editor acts disreputably, who embellishes or disparages characters according to his own private feelings. Sir Levet Hansen, in the latter part of his life, presented a fine specimen of the Addison school for English gentlemen, though not void of prejudices and weaknesses. His inflexible belief that the lives of the young Duke of Gloucester, and his mother Queen Anne, were shortened by poison, demonstrate the presence of the former quality; and his conclusion that those crimes were

perpetrated by her impatient heirs, is a proof of intellectual weakness, which is invariably seen closely blended with deep-rooted prejudice.

That the genuine Whigs were deeply alarmed by the ascendancy Bolingbroke had attained in the councils of Queen Anne, and by the exulting tone of the partisans of the exiled dynasty, all our historians agree in their testimony; but no one has yet broached an opinion that the death of Queen Anne was hastened by poison; at least, none that the Editor has ever perused.

Mr. Belsham, in his introductory pages to his *Memoirs of the Kings of the House of Brunswick*, (vol. i. p. 84, 85,) has thus expressed himself, relative to the projects of Queen Anne and Lord Bolingbroke, immediately previous to the death of the latter: *viz.*

“ Whatever projects BOLINGBROKE might have in contemplation, they were entirely disconcerted by the firmness and spirit with which the leaders of the Whig party acted on this occasion. A meeting of the Privy Council being convened when the Queen was on the verge of departure, *they took their places at the council-board without any regular summons, and immediately proceeded, by the most vigorous measures, to provide for the safety of the kingdom.* Orders were given to several regiments of horse and dragoons to march towards the metropolis. Directions were given for equipping a fleet with all expedition. An express was sent off to the Elector of Hanover, signifying that the Queen's life was despaired of, and desiring that he would, without delay, repair to Holland, where he would find a British squadron to convoy him to England. Instructions were at the same time dispatched to the Earl of Strafford, ambassador at the Hague, to demand from the States the performance of their engagements, as guarantees of the Protestant succession; and the heralds at arms were kept in

waiting, in order to proclaim the new King, the instant the throne should become vacant. No symptoms of popular tumult or discontent, however, much less of opposition, appeared on this great occasion; and whatever MIGHT BE INTENDED, it is certain nothing was EFFECTED by the *late* Queen or her ministers in favour of the Pretender.

“ The death of that Princess must, notwithstanding, be regarded as a very seasonable and fortunate event.

“ The Queen merits our pity, at least as much as our censure. Her partiality for her own family, and her dislike of the House of Hanover, were natural and pardonable; and if ever she indulged the idea of causing the crown, at her decease, to revert to the hereditary, and doubtless, as she imagined, the true and rightful claimant, it was certainly only *on conditions*, which, in her opinion, would have effectually secured both the Protestant religion, and the English constitution, from the hazard of future violation.”

Whatever objections may be urged against the judgment of Mr. Belsham, there can exist no kind of suspicion of his being friendly to the House of Stuart; and this historian, whose volumes are likely to maintain a distinguished rank in the estimation of posterity, has distinctly admitted, that a *vigour beyond law* was exercised on this occasion, not greater than the exigency of the moment, and the welfare of the State, required; but certainly beyond what the decorum of etiquette allowed.

And as this is one of the most interesting epochs of British history; and as the secret springs which governed the conduct of Lord Bolingbroke and his opponents, are difficult to explore; and the contents of the German work, printed at Erlangen, containing such bold assertions, said to have been

addressed to Frederick Prince of Wales, wherein Lord Bolingbroke was specifically stated to have offered the crown, by the authority of Queen Anne, to her brother, provided the Protestant religion, and the liberty of the people, could have been secured: and as a confidential intimacy appears to have subsisted between Lord Bolingbroke and Prince Frederick of Wales, the Editor thinks he cannot better fulfil his duty, than by laying before his readers the opinions of Mr. Belsham on the state of parties, at the period when the death of Frederick Prince of Wales occurred; and next, the very valuable note appended to his text, descriptive of the political principles of that elegant scholar and profound statesman, viz.

Page 171—5. “The opposition in parliament, nevertheless, still retained some degree of importance, from the countenance and patronage of the Prince of Wales, who, from recent causes, had become more than ever alienated from the Court. And, at this period, His Royal Highness distinguished, by peculiar marks of his favour and confidence, the famous Viscount BOLINGBROKE, who, having many years since received a full pardon from government, without, however, being restored to his seat in parliament, now resided at the rustic mansion of Dawley, in Middlesex; and was visited in this beautiful and sequestered retreat, to make use of the expression of a cotemporary historian, ‘*as a sainted shrine, by all the distinguished votaries of wit, eloquence, and political ambition.*’ Matured and mellowed by experience, reflection, and age, this all-accomplished nobleman, ‘*framed in the prodigality of nature,*’ and no less conspicuous in the lofty fanes of science, than the rosy bowers of pleasure, or the gorgeous palaces of ambition, shone forth in the evening of life with a mild and subdued, but rich and resplendent, lustre. And, in his political writings, he exhibited to an admiring

world that IDEA of a PATRIOT KING, which the heir of the British monarchy was supposed ambitious to form himself upon, as a complete and perfect model. *The hopes of the nation were, however, fatally blasted*, by the unfortunate and untimely death of the Prince, who, after a short illness, expired, March 20, 1751, leaving the education of his numerous offspring to the care of a Princess, amiable indeed from her maternal and domestic virtues, but who had brought from the Court of Saxe-Gotha principles and maxims of government, ill according with those which form the basis of the English constitution.

“It will, perhaps, not be unacceptable,” continues Mr. Belsham, at the commencement of his important and valuable note to page 171, &c. “to select a few extracts from this celebrated performance; in composing which, Lord Bolingbroke seems to have determined to lay aside all prejudice and party attachment, and to portray the lineaments of Truth, as she appeared to his imagination, in her own heavenly and radiant form; and which derives an high additional value, from its proceeding from a writer who possessed an intimate practical knowledge of his subject, and who has, therefore, steered perfectly clear of those visionary ideas of government which have unhappily blended themselves with the theories of many philosophical statistes. ‘In all cases of great concernment,’ the noble writer tells us, ‘that the shortest and surest method of arriving at real knowledge, is to remount to first principles; for it is about them that almost all the juggling and legerdemain employed by men, whose trade it is to deceive, are set to work. And he who does so on the subject of government, will discover soon, that the notions concerning the divine institution and right of kings, as well as the absolute power belonging to their office, have no foundation in fact or reason; but have risen from

an OLD ALLIANCE between ecclesiastical and civil policy. Reverence for government obliges us to reverence governors, who, for the sake of it, are raised above the level of other men. But reverence for governors, independently of government, any farther than reverence would be due to their virtues, if they were private men, is preposterous, and repugnant to common sense. As well might we say, that a ship is built, and loaded, and manned, for the sake of any particular pilot, instead of acknowledging that the pilot is made for the sake of the ship, her lading, and her crew, who are always the OWNERS in the POLITICAL VESSEL; as to say that kingdoms were instituted for kings, not kings for kingdoms. All this is as true of hereditary as of elective monarchy; though the SCRIBBLERS for tyranny, under the name of monarchy, would have us believe that there is something more august and more sacred in the one than the other. They are sacred alike; and this attribute is to be ascribed or not ascribed to them, as they answer or do not answer the ends of their institution. Enough has been said to establish the first and true principles of monarchical, and indeed of every other kind of government; and I will say, with confidence, that no principles but these, and such as these, can be advanced, which deserve to be treated seriously; though Mr. Locke *condescended* to examine those of Filmer, more out of regard to the prejudices of the time, than the importance of the work. The good of the people is the ultimate and true end of government: governors are therefore appointed for this end; and the civil constitution, which appoints them and invests them with their power, is determined to do so, by that law of nature and reason which has determined the end of government, and which admits this *form* of government as the proper means of arriving at it. Now, the greatest good of a people is their liberty:

without liberty no happiness can be enjoyed by society. The obligation, therefore, to defend and maintain the freedom of such constitutions, will appear most sacred to a PATRIOT KING. The constitution will be considered by him as one law, consisting of two tables; or as one system composed of different parts and powers, but all duly proportioned to one another, and conspiring, by their harmony, to the perfection of the whole. He will make one, and but one, distinction between his rights and those of the people;—he will look on his to be a trust, and their's a property;—he will discern that he can have a right to no more than is entrusted to him by the constitution; and that the people alone, who had an original right to the whole by the law of nature, can have the sole indefeasible right to any part, and really have such a right to that part, which they have reserved to themselves. Thus he will think, and on these principles he will act, whether he come to the throne by immediate or remote election. For in hereditary monarchies, where *men* are not elected, *families* are; and, therefore, *some authors* would have it believed, that, when a family has been once admitted, and an hereditary right to the crown recognized in it, that right cannot be forfeited. How much more agreeable to truth and to common sense would these authors have written, if they had maintained that every prince who comes to a crown in the course of succession, were he the last of five hundred, comes to it under the same conditions under which the first took it, whether expressed or implied. I mention this the rather, because I have an imperfect *remembrance* that some SCRIBBLER was employed, or employed himself, to assert the *hereditary right of the present family*; a task so unnecessary to any good purpose, that I believe a suspicion arose of its having been designed for a bad one. A PATRIOT KING will never

countenance such impertinent fallacies, nor deign to lean on broken reeds.'—Was this *recollection* in Lord Bolingbroke, or *prophetic anticipation*? or is it necessary to say, that whoever defends the absurd and pernicious tenets here reprobated, is a SCRIBBLER, however *sublime* and *beautiful* his language? A nobleman yet living, who was in habits of strict intimacy with Lord Bolingbroke, relates of him, that he was accustomed to express, in high and enthusiastic language, his admiration of the genius and talents of ALCIBIADES, not unconscious, perhaps, that to the character of this celebrated Athenian his own bore a striking analogy. And Lord Orrery assures us, that the conversation of Lord Bolingbroke united the wisdom of Socrates, the dignity and ease of Pliny, and the wit of Horace."

The tendency of the preceding historical extracts unquestionably goes to corroborate the assertions contained in the *Old Courtier's* MS. addressed to the eldest son of George II. It is consistent with Lord Bolingbroke's elevated mind to conclude, that after the *titular* king had rejected the proffered throne, on condition of adopting the Protestant religion, and reigning as an elected king, and agreeably to a liberal constitution,—he should henceforth lose all sympathy and respect for such a bigot. The loud applause bestowed by all parties on the amiable manners and constitutional principles of Frederick, might naturally incline his Lordship to think favourably of that prince; and if any such MS. as that named in the German publication ever had a real existence, it might reasonably be concluded, that the facts and tenets it contained and supported, had a very powerful influence on the future conduct of the young Prince, who might also have sense enough to perceive the danger there was of his losing the throne

to which he was presumptive heir, through the vices and follies of a corrupt court; and have wisely determined, as far as lay in his power, to adapt his manners and mind to the spirit of the great nation he was likely to rule over.

The prospect of seeing, or at least of believing that he had seen, a Prince of the House of Brunswick, who would endeavour to govern by nobler instruments than checks and curbs, was likely to cheer the evening of Bolingbroke's life; but he seemed predestined to experience only disappointments: the death of Queen Anne blasted all his great projects in the morning of his life; as the unexpected decease of Prince Frederick destroyed the last consolations that awaited him of having formed a PATRIOT KING, who should practically realize the beautiful vision his fancy and judgment had previously delineated.

Were it possible to penetrate into the secrets of the grave, it would perhaps be found that Lord BOLINGBROKE was concerned in the plan of reunion proposed by Doddington to the Prince, whereby those odious distinctions of *Whig* and *Tory* were to have been for ever discarded. The project teemed with danger, although its features were plausible and attractive. The number of leading characters who were ready to sacrifice the general good to individual profit, far exceeded that of the real friends of freedom, and there existed proportionate risk of introducing military despotism, instead of increasing the degree of political liberty then enjoyed.

Lord Bolingbroke did not long survive the Prince from whom he hoped so much: he died in the same year. In the *True Briton*, vol. iii. p. 633, December, 1751, is the following article.—
“*Thursday night, the corpse of the late Lord Viscount BOLINGBROKE was carried from his seat by his*

servants, and interred privately in a vault in BATTERSEA Church, without any plate or inscription on his coffin !!!"

Having thus examined the *probabilities* of the German document being genuine, the Editor recurs once more to the oft-repeated name of his respected friend and correspondent, Sir LEVET HANSEN; not from motives of personal vanity, but to defend himself from the imputation of having obtruded a fabricated narrative on the literary world. The gentleman in question was personally known to as many reigning sovereigns, to as many princes, ministers of state, and men of great talents and learning, as perhaps any private individual of his day in all Europe, and probably with more than any other Englishman. He is therefore far from being a dubious or an obscure authority; and the interesting minutes of his conversation relative to several points of secret history connected with the early reigns of the Brunswick kings, and the last male heir of the Stuarts, will not be estimated by the scholastic reader as the least interesting portion of original biography brought to light by the death of George III.

It was from this knight of the equestrian order of St. Joachim, that Admiral Lord NELSON received the diploma and grand cross of a Commander; and he had the latter on his breast when he fell in the moment of victory: and from the same source Sir ROBERT PORTER, author of *Travels in Russia and Sweden*,—who married a Russian princess, and whose accomplished sisters have enriched their native language with so many fine productions of female genius,—derived *his* title. Sir Levet Hansen wrote several books; one of which was a history of all the existing orders of knighthood in Europe, which was published by Murray in Fleet-street, London. He was fond of poetry,—he tried his powers as a poet, but nature had not endowed him with genius,

and all his learning and close application, could not supply its absence; yet, like other aged lovers, the more coy was the goddess he woo'd, the more ardent were his efforts; and though his pursuit was deemed hopeless by the spectators, he could not be persuaded of the fact himself. Satire was his favourite weapon; and Messrs. Thornton, Garlick, Gower, and other English *diplomates*, were the objects on whom he exercised his wit. He died about the year 1812; and were his papers examined, and properly prepared for publication, they would be found to justify all that has been said of his universal knowledge, and richly cultivated mind; and prove a most valuable acquisition to the stock of original literature.

CHAPTER VI.

Character of Prince Frederick by Belsham.—Aspersions arising from ignorance of foreign manners and customs, refuted.—Singular custom of respectable matrons in Amsterdam.—Verses on Prince Frederick, extracted from a Jacobitical publication.—Doddington's narrative of the slights shewn to the Prince after his death.—Comments on the baseness of sordid statesmen.—Historical quotations occasioned by the Prince's death.—Biographical sketch of the Prince's attendant, Anthony Hammond, Esq.—Thompson's character of Hammond.—Specimen of his Love Elegies.—Correspondence between Aaron Hill and Alexander Pope, relative to the PRINCE and the DRAMA.—Dawning fame of Garrick and Johnson.—Character of BOOTH the actor: of Johnson's IRENE, by Aaron Hill.—Quin and Garrick.—Dramatic Libels.—Political Coercion: its consequence.

IF the pages of every other historical work were closed by prejudice, or a more disreputable cause, from doing justice to the injured character of Frederick Prince of Wales, the Editor of the Memoirs of his illustrious Heir, George III. should to the full be as tenacious of *his* fame, as for that of his great successor. Amongst the various characters that have been given of him, the following is perhaps the most accurately delineated: *viz.*

“Throughout almost the whole course of the late reign, the Prince of Wales, father of the present King, from various causes of jealousy and discontent, too easily arising from the doubtful and difficult situation of an Heir apparent, had been in direct and avowed opposition to the Court. So far as the means of judging are afforded us, the

Prince, in his general policy, seems to have been distinguished by the rectitude of his intention, the generosity and ingenuousness of his conduct. He was desirous of governing the English nation upon maxims truly English, and was fired with the noble ambition of realizing, in his own person, that grand and perfect model of a 'PATRIOT KING,' delineated by the happiest effort of a transcendent genius. In consequence, however, of the coalition of the Whigs, which took place after the resignation of Sir Robert Walpole, the Prince, whose reconciliation with the Court proved of transient duration, was left entirely in the hands of the Tories, now affecting to style themselves the *country party*; or, if the ancient nominal distinction was ever retained, REVOLUTIONARY TORIES.

"The Prince of Wales had deeply imbibed these liberal ideas, and was laudably solicitous to extend the protection of government to all who had not, by culpable misconduct, forfeited their claim to it, *without any distinction of party*; convinced that those who fulfilled the duties, were entitled to the privileges, of good citizens and subjects.

"It does not appear that the Prince of Wales was himself, in any degree, tainted with those miserable prejudices; and during the lifetime of the Prince, there is good reason to believe, that great and incessant pains were taken to infuse into the minds of his rising offspring, and more particularly of his eldest born, *the second hope of Britain*, just and elevated sentiments of government, and of liberty, civil and religious."

Such are the respectful terms in which a justly celebrated writer has mentioned that Prince, whom Horace Walpole, in his pages, has so cruelly and basely calumniated and misrepresented; such the delineation of that Prince, whom Walpole has stigmatized '*a worthless son*,' and an unworthy citizen!

Amongst all the virulence of factious publications, when the House of Brunswick was bespattered by every hireling of the Stuart party, and its princes were held up as objects of national scorn and derision, much in the same coarse manner as the writings of Walpole still portray them, Prince Frederick escaped almost untouched. There were indeed occasional anonymous sarcasms levelled at his nocturnal excursions in pursuit of illicit pleasures, and some more serious imputations, that he set evil examples before the eyes of his son; for which it will be difficult to make the apology which virtue requires. It may perhaps be said, that, imitating some illustrious examples of antiquity, these might have arisen from the Prince's wish to shew vice in its native deformity, and have been intended to repel, not invite, the approaches of the royal novice. It is a truth notoriously known, that the Romans allowed one day of freedom to their slaves; and when any of that greatly injured and oppressed race indulged to excess their vicious propensities, their masters exhibited the drunken slaves to their children, in order to shew the odious nature and effects of inebriety. In Amsterdam, at the period in view, it was the custom of the highest and most opulent matrons, during the Kermis, or Fair, to take their blooming daughters to witness the nocturnal revels at the *Rondeel*, a sort of Cyprian mart, where ruined and degraded females assembled,—their bosoms exposed, and their attractions set off by every meretricious art, to obtain temporary lovers; and where, under artificial groves, the wanton dance fired the senses of youth, and music added its force to the power of those syrens. The same policy—the wisdom or utility of which is more than questionable—might have induced the Prince, who had frequently visited Amsterdam, (his sister having married the Prince of Orange,) to treat his English-

born son in the same way; and thus have incurred a heavy censure, where his heart was wholly innocent of criminality.

Of the Jacobite publications of that age, the *True Briton* held a foremost rank, and from its pages a few characteristical sketches will be found attached. Even that work, which was avowedly set up to disparage and calumniate the Brunswick dynasty, not only abstained from the use of disrespectful language during the life of Prince Frederick, but complimented his memory when he was no more; of which creditable fact the following extract offers a pleasing demonstration: *viz.*

ON THE DEATH OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

“ *Vivat post funera virtus.* ”

“ Hung be the heavens with black,
“ Yield day to night.”

So Britons mourn'd, when, sated with renown,
Fate snatch'd their *Edward** from th' impending crown.
Mature like him, our FREDERICK we ador'd:
Not *Arthur*† so, nor *Henry*‡ was deplor'd.
Virtue with them was virtue in pursuit;
They gave the blossoms only, this the fruit.
In camps and councils, if the Black Prince shone,
'Twas then no sycophants besieg'd the throne.
He held the rank his birth-right durst assume:
No fav'rite *Jacob* stept in Esau's room.
Talents untry'd, 'twere rashness to define;
But all the gracious, FREDERICK, was thine:
Trust might have made the parallel complete;
For whom we knew so good, we judg'd as great.

True Briton, April 10, 1751, p. 352, vol. i.

The best idea in these lines was evidently borrowed from Pope's celebrated Epitaph, inscribed

* Edward the Black Prince, who died Anno 1376.

† Prince Arthur died in 1502.

‡ Prince Henry in 1612.

on the tomb of Lord Harcourt and his son: the beauty and defect of which have been so admirably displayed in Johnson's Life of Pope.

The lonely and servile manner in which the remains of the great Lord BOLINGBROKE were conveyed to his sepulchre, has already been displayed.

The funeral honours, such as they were, which awaited the remains of the most popular Prince that had ever then existed of the Brunswick family, will be found in the Appendix. The following extracts will demonstrate how little sincerity there existed in the boasted reconciliation of 1742, and the petty spirit of his rancorous enemies, whose enmity even his death could not assuage.—It is DODDINGTON who speaks:

“April 13, 1751.—Lord Limerick consulted with me about walking at the funeral. By the Earl Marshal's order, *published* in the common newspapers of the day, neither he, as an Irish Peer, nor I, as a Privy Counsellor, could walk. He expressed a strong resolution to pay his last duty to his royal friend, if practicable.”

“At seven o'clock, I went, according to the order, to the House of Lords. The many slights that the poor remains of a much-loved master and friend had met with, and who was now preparing the last trouble he could give his enemies, sunk me so low, for the first hour, I was incapable of making any observation.”

“The procession began, and (except the Lords appointed to hold the pall, and attend the chief mourner, and those of his own domestics) when the attendants were called in their ranks, there was not ONE English Lord, not *one* Bishop, and only one Irish Lord (Limerick), two sons of Dukes (Earl of Drumlandrig and Lord Robert Bertie), one Baron's son (Mr. Edgcumbe), and two Privy Counsellors (Sir John Rushout and myself), out of

these great bodies, to make a shew of duty to a Prince so great in rank and expectation. While we were in the House of Lords, it rained very hard, as it had done all the season: when we came into Palace-yard, the way to the Abbey was lined with soldiers, but the managers had not afforded the smallest covering for our heads; but by good fortune, while we were from under cover, it held up. We went in at the S. E. door, and turned short into Henry the Seventh's chapel. The service was performed without either anthem or organ. So ended this sad day. *Quem semper acerbum—semper honoratum.* 'We always honour whom we hate.'

"The corpse and bowels were removed last night to the Prince's lodgings at the House of Lords; the *whole* Bedchamber were ordered to attend from ten in the morning till the *interment*. There was not the attention to order the Green Cloth to provide them a bit of bread; and these gentlemen, of the first rank and distinction, in discharge of their last sad duty to a loved and a loving master, were forced to bespeak a great cold dinner from a common tavern in the neighbourhood. At three o'clock, indeed, they vouchsafed to think of a dinner, and ordered one,—but the disgrace was complete, the tavern dinner was paid for, and given to the poor. N. B. The Duke of Somerset was chief mourner, notwithstanding the flourishing state of the Royal Family."

Amongst the sketches and selections already given, in p. 102, is a partial list of some of *the Prince's friends*, who appeared at Court on the political fall of Walpole, wherein stood the names of *two* Dukes, a Marquis, *sixteen* Earls, *five* Viscounts, *nine* Lords, and a long list of Baronets, Knights, and Gentlemen, all of whom appeared emulous to excel each other in zeal and devotion for his service. The day after the Prince had been publicly reconciled with his royal Father, two hundred and fifty parti-

sans attended His Majesty's levee, amongst whom were SIX Dukes, TWENTY Earls, EIGHT Viscounts, and TEN Lords, besides Baronets, and other exalted characters.

A more severe satire on the servile, rapacious, and dastardly character of the aristocracy of these kingdoms at the period in question, was never penned than those historical facts exhibit. Only a few days previous to the death of the Prince, the numerous and ample anti-chambers of his palace were not large enough to contain his *noble* and numerous suitors, and he could scarcely step without setting his foot upon a prostrate Peer. Both Whigs and Tories were sedulously courting Frederick's favour, and preparing to use him as a bridge, to afford a passage to the councils of the reigning King, and *compel* him to admit them into his cabinet. A single commoner had proposed raising the immense sum of £300,000 for the Prince's use. But when his corpse was to be interred, not one of the great names who had crowded his levees was found to pay their last homage to his cold remains. Amidst all the shabby traits, and dirty manœuvres, which attach to Doddington, he is at least entitled to the merit of having acted in a more spirited manner: he did not decline following his master's remains to the grave, lest it should injure his prospects at Court. According to Mr. Doddington, there was not a single relation of the Prince, who attended his funeral; nor scarcely an individual, but those who held appointments about his person; and as most of those were *oppositionists*, it is not to be wondered at, that *little* minds should catch at the *little* means of spiteful annoyance related by this curious journalist.

The following article, occasioned by the death of the Prince of Wales, was extracted from the *True Briton*, April 3d, 1751, p. 334, 5, and 6: *viz.*

“ He was, in the common course of the world, an affectionate husband, an indulgent parent, and an affable, good-natured man. What his public character was as a politician, opportunity, and a proper scene of action, could only have evinced.

“ Some have already run into great extravagancies, in relation to his character, and bid the comets scourge the bad revolting stars, that consented to Frederick’s death!

“ But the greatest true regard his friends can shew to his reputation, will be to take care that none suffer hardships by the concern they had with him, and the confidence they placed in him.

“ On this occasion, the funerals of Edward the Black Prince, that of Arthur, the son of Henry VII. and the Duke of Gloucester, are remembered particularly.

“ Edward the Black Prince died on the 8th of June, 1376, in the forty-sixth year of his age: the news was received with inconceivable grief, as he was possessed of all the virtues in an eminent degree, and free from all vices.

“ The body of the Prince being embalmed, lay in state, and was then wrapped up in lead; and at Michaelmas he was carried in a stately hearse, drawn with twelve horses, through the city of London, the whole Court, and the two Houses of Parliament, attending him in mourning as far as Canterbury, the place of his interment.

“ On the 25th of June, at the earnest request of the Commons, the young Lord Richard, then ten years old, came into open Parliament before the Lords; when the Commons, with one voice, prayed that the Lords would make him Prince of Wales: but the Lords answered, *That it lay not in them, but in the King only, so to do.* Accordingly, on the 20th of November he was, by the King his Grandfather, declared Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and Earl of Chester.

"The victory at Cressy, gained by this Prince, was the greatest that ever was known in France;* thirty thousand French being slain upon the place, and in the pursuit; fifteen hundred of whom were dukes, earls, and gentlemen.†

"At Poitiers, A. D. 1356, he purchased so memorable a victory, as was never before attained by the English with so few hands: for the French king himself, and his youngest son Philip, (who had valiantly defended his father, when his two other sons had forsaken him,) many great nobility, and eminent lords, besides 2000 knights, squires, and gentlemen, were taken prisoners, and above 1700 noblemen and gentlemen were slain.

"The Prince of Wales gained a double victory, the one by his sword, and the other by his courtesy; for he visited the captive king with all the reverence and respect due to his majesty, and comforted him by the examples of like fortunes in war, and assured him of all fair treatment, according to his dignity.

"In the year 1367, with his father's consent, he marched with an army of 30,000 men, to restore Peter, king of Castile, who, for his ill behaviour, had been driven from his throne by his bastard brother; engaged‡ an army of 100,000, and had the victory, and placed Peter on the throne. The historian observes, that *the cause was much better than the person*; however, it shews the opinion both of the hero and historian, of the cause of a king out of possession.

"The Prince's death changed the face of affairs at home; the Duke of Lancaster, his brother, got installed in the regency, contrary to the order of the Parliament, which provided that twelve of the

* Kennet, vol. i. p. 222. A. D. 1346, Aug. 26.

† Ibid. p. 226.

‡ Ibid. p. 230.

most sage and discreet Lords should dispose of all national affairs, by six at a time.

“But King Edward, to prevent the mischiefs which might arise by disordering the succession, providently settled the same in Parliament, upon Richard of Bourdeaux, (the Prince’s son,) creating him first *Earl of Chester, and then Prince of Wales, which made much for his safety against the designs which the Duke of Lancaster (his uncle) had formed to supplant him; for this confirmation by the Parliament, which he had offended, and the breach which he had with the Londoners soon after, deterred him from so much as attempting that, which his son in the next reign effected; but yet, in the station he was in under his father, he played the king very much, and carried himself very imperiously.

“The King was ill at this time, and deserted in his last moments by all, when he stood most in need of attendance. He died June 21, A. D. 1377.

“Richard succeeded his grandfather, Edward III. in the throne of England, June 21, 1377, then eleven years old, and was afterwards deposed by the Duke of Lancaster.”

ANTHONY HAMMOND, ESQ.

Author of the preceding juvenile character of Frederick, afterwards Prince of Wales, died this year (1743.) He was the son of a Turkey merchant, resident in London. His situation under the Prince brought him acquainted with Miss Dashwood, a near relation to Sir Francis Dashwood, M. P. who belonged to *the Prince’s party*, and whom Mr. Belsham (p. 17, vol. i. of his Reign of

* Kennet, vol. i. p. 232.

George III.) calls a *revolutionary Tory*. Of this lady he became deeply enamoured: his passion not meeting a favourable reception, dejection seized his mind; and his fine genius, stung by resentment, expressed its sorrows in elegies which have branded the name of his hard-hearted mistress with deathless disgrace.

By some of his contemporary poets, he is represented as having lost his reason; it seems more certain that he lost his situation in the Prince's household long previous to his death. In Cibber's *Lives of the Poets*, he is represented as having composed most of those elegies before he was twenty-one years of age. The Prince, his master, was not remarkable for a fine poetical taste or genius; and as the interest of Sir Francis Dashwood was considerable at Court, it is probable the young lover suffered by the indignant terms in which he lashed the avarice of his mistress, and threatened her with his indifference, as displayed in the following stanzas:

“ Should Jove descend in floods of liquid ore,
And golden torrents stream from ev'ry part,
That craving bosom still would heave for more,
Not all the gods could satisfy thy heart.

“ But may thy folly, which can thus disdain
My honest love, the mighty wrong repay;
May midnight fire involve thy sordid gain,
And on the shining heaps of rapine prey.

“ May all the youths, like me, by love deceiv'd,
Not quench the ruin, but applaud the doom;
And when thou dy'st, may not one heart be griev'd,
May not one tear bedew the lonely tomb.

“ But the deserving, tender, gen'rous maid,
Whose only care is her poor lover's mind,
Tho' ruthless age may bid her beauty fade,
In every friend to love, a friend shall find:

“ And when the lamp of life will burn no more,
When dead, she seems as in a gentle sleep;

The pitying neighbour shall her loss deplore,
And round the bier assembled lovers weep :

“ With flow’ry garlands, each revolving year
Shall strew the grave where truth and softness rest ;
Then, home returning, drop the pious tear,
And bid the turf lie easy on her breast.”

But lovers, and more especially ardent and vehement lovers, are always unreasonable, and sometimes very selfish. Miss Dashwood might not, perhaps, have been inclined to have given her hand to young Hammond, had he been her equal as to wealth, family connections, and expectancies. That the youthful poet was sincere in his love, and of course disinterested as to her wealth, may be allowed, without condemning the memory of the young lady to eternal infamy on the score of avarice. This REALITY of passion has given a most impressive tone to the effusions of his aching heart, which touches that of his readers ; for there is scarcely a more affecting spectacle in life than a handsome, accomplished, and virtuous youth, pining to death under the consuming anguish of a hopeless passion. Mr. Hammond died at Stowe, the seat of his friend and patron, Lord Cobham, in the thirty-first year of his age ; but there must, of course, be an error as to the latter, or in the date of the juvenile character attributed to his pen, which is 1716, when, according to these data, he must have been a child under five years of age.

Mr. Hammond possessed a handsome person ; his manners were polished, his conversation pleasing. He was an occasional visitor of Thomson at his house in Kew Foot Lane, where Pope, and the greatest wits of the age, used to assemble. Thomson stood high above the imputation of envious feelings : in his familiar conversations with his bosom friend, Mr. Robertson, surgeon, of Kew Green, speaking of Hammond’s character as a

poet, Thomson said, "*he is a burnished butterfly!*" Such was the declaration of Mr. Robertson in 1792, just previous to his death, to T. Parke, Esq. the friend of the Earl of BUCHAN.

Having thus copiously thrown together a mass of new, and of historical matter, relative to Frederick Prince of Wales, the Editor, in conformity with his *Prospectus*, has selected, from works not now in general reading, a few illustrations of the degree of repute in which the Prince of Wales was held as a patron of letters and the fine arts.

(EXTRACTS.)

AARON HILL to ALEXANDER POPE, *relative to Prince Frederick and the Drama.*—Jan. 15, 1738-9.

Mr. Fleetwood—(what a fall is there from *Peter Alexewitz!*)—sends me word that the PRINCE has been so just as to insist on Mr. Mallet's Tragedy, as the first to be brought on this season. In this news he has pleased me sincerely: I adjoin my own vote against myself, with a preference still more warm than the PRINCE's. And may what I write never be *read*, but by the *Fleetwoods* and *Lacys* of futurity, if I would not rather burn it with my own hand, than oppose it to the interest of a man of genius and worth,—though a stranger! But to see the management of our Theatres reduced to such an unfathomable descent in *profundity*, that a Tragedy, writ with the care that has been bestowed upon Cæsar, should be drivelled, hummed, and hesitated over,—should be complimented with the dull mysteriousness of apology, to cover but neglect and irresolution,—is a nettling alarm to the patience of a writer, and, indeed, a trial to the quick, of his vanity.

And yet, (as a check to the solemn impertinence I am suffering myself to stroll into,) it was in this very country, and in this very age, YOU were born! *That* reflection shall serve as a balance, and cut short all complaint.

Mr. HILL to Mr. MALLET.

(*The rising Fame of GARRICK.*)

April 20, 1744.

One day, last week, I was at *Macbeth*, and saw, for the first time, your favourite, Mr. Garrick. He is natural, impressive, and easy; has a voice articulate, and placid: his gesture never turbulent, and often well adapted; is untouched by affectation. His peculiar talent lies in pensively preparatory attitudes; whereby, awakening expectation in the audience, he secures and holds fast their attention.

Such I saw, and heard, he is. Shall I proceed to tell you, what I know not whether he yet is, or not? He gave me no occasion to discern what *strength* he has in the more agitated passions,—what power of compass, in indignation, ecstasy, love, scorn, joy, or furious and unbridled anger. If his voice can reach the *swells* peculiar to those sharper transports, with the same propriety and gracefulness wherewith he touches the soft *falls* of sorrow, terror, and compassion; and if his motions, in such risings, are as nervous and majestic as the mien requires, in active changes, from the pensive, or the mournful, into the indignant and elastic,—I shall then take great pleasure in pronouncing him an amiable and accomplished actor.

I intend to see him quite through *Richard*, where, I have been told, he is thought strongest. I design to see, too, Mr. QUIN, who has, they say, gone new and noble lengths in the same character. And, when I have observed them both, you shall have my opinion very frankly. All health to you and your's, from every body here, and, in particular, from,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate,

and faithful humble servant,

A. HILL.

The same to the same.

DEAR SIR,

Before I say a word to that part of your letter which concerns the Play-house scheme, allow me to confess some pain for the wrong sense, wherein, I fear, I gave you room to misconceive me, on the MONARCH's family's insensibility to what is said about them in the *Fanciad*.

God forbid, that I should ever sink so low in my attachment even to *truth*, as to espouse it with a view to *interest*! Not that I am so insolent or proud, however, as to dream myself above reward, I am but *careless* of receiving any; or, in other words, would rather have it in esteem than profit. All my little expectation from them was, that they might think it worth their while to let the publisher be told, the family would have been glad to learn what hand they were obliged to. The hint had been a *safe*, as well as civil one; and they had hazarded no consequence beyond the compliment. But you have thrown me under no small dread of your good-nature's wrong effect, when you would spur up such reluctant feelings. No, dear Sir, I thank you very kindly; but I would by no means have you do it; let them enjoy the great man's little privilege, of being wrong without disturbance: I resign them, very cheerfully, to their contempt of praise and poetry.

The only hope I had, for poetry, is *lost*. I thought that the PRINCE might be awakened into more than passive inclination, to promote a scheme for stage improvement. A new licence for us, by his procurement, had done every thing we wished, or stood in need of. But even there too we were disappointed.

In an age, then, when a Prince of such a humane and amiable disposition, can find reasons to decline bestowing his entreated countenance on honest meanings, which he loves, and longs to cherish, what prospect can we have of other patronage, equivalent to our reasonable purpose? For my own part, I despair of any; but I shall both rejoice and wonder to be found mistaken in this notion; and, whenever you can call me to conviction, that I am too sullen a distruster of the times, you may command me to contribute all the little help that is within a power so humble and so limited as mine is, who am

Your faithful, and

affectionate humble servant,

A. HILL.

AARON HILL'S *Character of BOOTH as an Actor: supposed to have been written in 1741.*

Two advantages distinguished him, in the strongest light, from the rest of his fraternity. He had *learning* to understand perfectly whatever it was his part to speak; and *judgment* to know how far it agreed or disagreed with the character. Hence arose a peculiar grace, which was visible to

every spectator, though few were at the pains of examining into the *cause* of their pleasure: he could soften, and slide over, with a kind of elegant negligence, the *improprieties* in a part he acted, while, on the contrary, he would dwell with energy upon the *beauties*, as if he exerted a latent spirit, which had been kept back for such an occasion, that he might alarm, awaken, and transport, in those places only, where the dignity of his own good sense could be supported by that of the author.

A little reflection, upon this remarkable quality, will help us to account for that manifest *languor* which has sometimes been observed in his *action*, and which was generally, though I think falsely, imputed to the natural indolence of his temper.

For the same reason, though in the customary rounds of his business, he would condescend to some parts in comedy, he never appeared in any of them, but with disadvantage to his character: the passions which he found in *comedy* were not strong enough to excite his fire; and what seem'd want of qualification, was only absence of impression. One might have said of him, in the scripture phrase, *he is not dead, but sleepeth!* Like a deep laden ship, he was too heavy for a common breeze, which therefore serv'd but to make him *roll* and *heave*; but in a *gale*, that threaten'd shipwreck to the cock-boats of the Theatre, he was sure to display his streamers; and sail'd steady and majestic, as if the force of a tempest had just *breath* enough to move him.

He had a talent at discovering the *passions* where they lay *hid* in some celebrated parts, having been buried under a prescription of rantings and monotony, by the practice of other actors: when he had discover'd, he soon grew able to express them. And his secret, by which he attained this great lesson of the Theatre, was an association, or adaptation, of his *look* to his *voice*; by which artful imitation of *nature*, the variations in the sound of his words, gave propriety to every change in his countenance. So that, among players, in whom it is common to hear *pity* pronounced with a frown upon the forehead, *sorrow* express'd by a *grin* upon the eye, and *anger* thunder'd out, with a look of unnatural *serenity*, it was Mr. Booth's peculiar felicity to be *heard* and seen the *same*; whether, as he pleas'd, the *griev'd*, the *pitying*, the *reproachful*, or the *angry*: one would be almost tempted to borrow the aid of a very bold figure; and, to express the excellence the more significantly, beg permission to affirm, that the *blind* might have seen him in his *voice*, and the *deaf* have heard him in his *visage*.

His *gesture*, or, as it is commonly called, his *action*, was but the result, and necessary consequence of his dominion over his *voice* and *countenance*; for having, by concurrence of two such causes, impress'd his imagination with the stamp and spirit of a passion, his nerves obeyed the impulse by a kind of natural dependency, and relax'd or brac'd, successively, into all that fine expressiveness, with which he painted what he spoke, without restraint or affectation.

To say every thing, in a word, he was the NEWTON of the *Theatre*; nor should you be surpris'd at the *simile*, because the Playhouse is no sphere of *philosophy*: my comparison will move upon more legs than one; for Mr. BOOTH, as well as SIR ISAAC, discover'd *new* worlds, and demonstrated them: the misfortune is, he left his *brethren* no road whereby they can travel to them. They must be contented, as no doubt they *will*, with the humble earth they are us'd to.

This admirable letter, which contains so many striking traits of a fine taste and powerful judgment, requires no apology on account of its length; and its directions to a spectator are so correctly expressed, that by observing them, any person of moderate capacity might measure the calibre of our present actors. He was the ablest, as well as the most generous and candid, of dramatical critics; and as magnanimous, as some of his *puisne* successors have been vindictive and oppressive.

Doctor JOHNSON and GARRICK.

To the Rev. Mr. Colson.

Litchfield, March 2d.

DEAR SIR,

I had the favour of your's, and am extremely obliged to you; but cannot say I had a greater affection for you upon it than I had before, being long since so much endeared to you, as well by an early friendship, as by your many excellent and valuable qualifications; and had I a son of my own, it would be my ambition, instead of sending him to the University, to dispose of him as this young gentleman is.

He and another neighbour of mine, one Mr. S. Johnson, set out this morning for London together. Davy Garrick is

to be with you early the next week; and Mr. Johnson, to try his fate with a tragedy, and to see to get himself employed in some translation, either from the Latin or the French. Johnson is a very good scholar and poet, and I have great hopes will turn out a fine tragedy-writer. If it should any ways lie in your way, I doubt not but you would be ready to recommend and assist your countryman.

G. WALMSLEY.

Mr. AARON HILL to Mr. MALLETT.

*Character of Dr. Johnson's IRENE.**

February 15, 1749.

I was in town at the *anomalous* Mr. Johnson's benefit, and found the play his proper representative, strong sense, ungrac'd by sweetness or decorum: Mr. Garrick made the most of a detach'd, and almost independent character. He was elegantly dressed, and charmed me infinitely, by an unexampled silent force of pointed action; and by a peculiar *touchingness*, in cadency of voice, from exclamation, sinking into pensive lownesses, that both surpris'd and interested! Mrs. Cibber, too, was beautifully dressed, and did the utmost to her part. But I was sorry to see *Mahomet* (in Mr. BARRY) lose the influence of an attractive figure, and degrade the awfulness of an imperious *sultan*, the impressive menace of a martial *conqueror*, and the beseeching tenderness of an amorous *solicitor*, by an unpointed *restlessness* of leaping *levity*, that neither carried weight to suit his dignity, nor struck out purpose to express his passions.

* Boswell's Life of Johnson contains an interesting description of this great author's dress and demeanour, whilst IRENE was under the actors' hands, on the first night of its performance. It was ill received, and coarsely handled. All the power of Garrick, and all the friends of the poet, could not avert its doom. When IRENE was about to be strangled in sight of the audience, one simultaneous emotion of horror and disgust pervaded the audience; and some of the wags of the Pit shouted "Murder! murder! off!" In his dramatical pursuits, Johnson was less fortunate than Thomson; but they were neither of them calculated to excel in that walk of poetry.

QUIN and GARRICK.

The managers of Drury Lane and Covent Garden played to thin houses, while Garrick drew the town after him; and the actors beheld his prodigious success with an evil eye. Quin, in his sarcastic vein, said, "This is the wonder of a day: *Garrick is a new religion; the people follow him as another Whitfield, but they will soon return to church again.*" The joke was relished, and soon spread through the town. Garrick thought it required an answer: he replied in the following epigram:

POPE QUIN, who damns all churches but his own,
Complains that heresy infects the town;
That WHITFIELD GARRICK has misled the age,
And taints the sound religion of the stage:
He says that schism has turn'd the nation's brain,
But eyes will open, and to church again.
Thou GRAND INFALLIBLE, forbear to roar,
Thy bulls and errors are rever'd no more.
When doctrines meet with general approbation,
It is not HERESY, but REFORMATION!

"Quin," says Mr. Murphy, "was now like his own Falstaff, not only witty in himself, but the cause of wit in others."—*Vide Murphy's Life of Garrick*, vol. i. p. 32.

DRAMATICAL LIBELS.

Political Coercion.

The complaints of ministers and their dependants were so loud and vehement, of the liberties taken with their characters and proceedings in the THEATRES, that it was *by them* deemed necessary to introduce a BILL into Parliament, placing all NEW theatrical compositions under the control of an officer of the court, the *Lord Chamberlain*.

On this occasion, the Earl of Chesterfield, in the House of Peers, said—

"An administration destitute of esteem or respect among the people, *will be censured and ridiculed, nor will the SEVEREST EDICTS be found of force to prevent it.* The

best, and indeed the only mode of avoiding public ridicule, is to avoid ridiculous and vicious actions; for the people will neither ridicule those they love and esteem, nor suffer them to be ridiculed.

* * * * *

“The peculiar province of the stage, my Lords, is, to expose those vices and follies which the law cannot lay hold of. To a man bred in the habits of a Court, that may appear to be a libel against the Court, which is only a just and salutary satire upon its vices and follies. Courtiers, my Lords, are too polite to reprove one another; the only place where they can meet with any just rebuke, is a free, though *not a licentious stage.*”

The bill, however, passed into a law, but the EDWARD and ELEONORA* of Thomson, the GUSTAVUS VASA of Brooke,

* ROSSI, the celebrated sculptor, many years since wrought an elaborate work of art from this noble trait of female heroism, and conjugal devotion. The figures are larger than life. The wounded monarch is seated; his beauteous consort kneeling, tenderly approaches his naked arm, her looks beaming with love, hope, and confidence, and she appears in the act of applying her lips to the wound, to draw forth the fatal poison. The hero-king seems half ashamed, *half afraid*, to comply with her daring request; his muscular arm appears rather taken than surrendered: in his majestic countenance, subdued fierceness, love, and admiration, are finely blended; his eyes seem bent upon the heroic queen, who thus apparently devotes herself to certain death to redeem his life. The whole range of history does not afford a finer subject. The Laocoon, the Hercules Farnese, the Apollo Belvidere, would all suffer if compared with the *natural beauties*, and *mental character*, of this magnificent group, where there is nothing anomalous, but all so tastefully designed, and so exquisitely wrought, that the *deaf and dumb*, to borrow a simile from Aaron Hill, would *hear and feel* the sentiments impressed by Rossi's masterly hand. So admirably is every thing disposed, (costume, attitudes, and expression,) that the most able critic would find it difficult to pronounce wherein exists its greatest excellence. The extended arm of the monarch might perhaps be selected as the most perfect part; but where every thing is in harmony, it is useless to particularize. The late Queen (Charlotte) used frequently to honour Mr. Rossi with a call, and she has contemplated this great effort of genius, till her eyes were suffused in tears. She seemed to envy the happiness of Eleonora, in having the power to save *her* husband by offering up her own life; whilst *that* more deadly disease by which the consort of Charlotte was afflicted, lay too deep for human lips to heal, or

and the *MUSTAPHA* of Mallet, are the principal instances in which this *anti-English* power was exercised. In a future stage of this publication, the latent cause of Thomson's tragedy being rejected, will be found explained; suffice it now to state, that so inveterate was the dislike to THOMSON on account of the manly and independent spirit of his writings, that when the gentleman who had copied the tragedy to be laid before the Lord *Censor*, having written a play himself, presented it for his licence, the wise and upright Censor, perceiving that the hand-writing was the same as that in the MS. of *Edward and Eleonora*, put a *veto* on the piece, evidently without giving himself the trouble to read the piece he thus condemned.

Perhaps the spirit which breathes in the following lines of *GUSTAVUS VASA*, procured the condemnation of this work :

“ Are ye not mark'd, ye men of Dalecarlia,
Are ye not mark'd by all the circling world?
—Say, is not liberty the thirst, the food,
The scope, and bright ambition, of your souls?
Why else have you, and your renown'd forefathers,
From the proud summit of their glitt'ring thrones,
Cast down the mightiest of your lawful kings
That dar'd the bold infringement? What but liberty,
Through the fam'd course of thirteen hundred years,
Aloof hath held invasion from your hills,
And sanctified their shade? And will ye, will ye
Shrink from the hopes of the expecting world?
Bid your high honours stoop to FOREIGN INSULT?
And in one hour give up to infamy
The harvest of a thousand years of glory?

George had been redeemed, as well as *EDWARD*. Her Majesty expressed to the King her sincere desire to have this fine national monument executed in carrara marble, and placed in St. George's Hall: her wishes were not realized. The pure classical taste, and magnificent spirit, of the reigning King, leaves room to hope that while Rossi possesses power to execute this great work, this monument will be finished, and placed in WINDSOR CASTLE. What place so appropriate? What ornament so becoming? Instead of incurring the reproach of posterity by plundering those magnificent ruins which the Turks had spared, a smaller sum would have supplied statuary equally fine, wrought by native artists; for there are other artists equal to Rossi in genius, and, to the disgrace of the age, EQUALLY NEGLECTED.

“Where is that power whose engines are of force
To bend the brave and virtuous man to slavery?
Base fear, the laziness of lust, gross appetites,
These are the ladders and the grov’ling footstool
From whence the tyrant rises on our wrongs.
Secure and sceptred *in the soul’s servility,*
He has debauch’d the genius of our country,
And rides triumphant, while her captive sons
Await his nod—the silken slaves of pleasure.”

Such were the sentiments *then* deemed libellous, unfit for public rehearsal, and calculated *to pollute* public morals!!!

CHAPTER VII.

Fabricated Anecdotes.—The late King, and the London Magazine.—Anecdotes of Frederick Prince of Wales.—Of his pastime with his sons, George and Edward.—The person and manners of the late King at thirteen years of age.—Regulations enforced at Kew.—A singular anecdote: its source.—Different character between Prince George and his brother Edward.—Family dissensions.—Jacobitical Satire.—Venison Selling.—Prince George created Prince of Wales.—Message to Parliament.—Address to the King.—Jacobitical Squibs, reflecting on the Royal Family.—A Rising Sun.—The Prince elected Governor of the British Herring Society.—A flattering speech, and modest reply.—Council of Regency.—Reported apprehension of the Pretender.—Anecdote connected therewith.—Extraordinrry fidelity commemorated.—Satirical Verses, occasioned by the imputed corruptions of the House of Commons.—Youthful Character of the late King, as expressed by the Hon. George Selwyn.—Of Queen Matilda.

IT is so extremely difficult to select the genuine from the mass of fabricated anecdotes that are palmed on society by authors and editors,* who meanly aspire

* The London Magazine, 1747, p. 270, contains a satirical article, which, however, has lost its original interest by the change of times and circumstances, wherein the sovereigns or states of Europe were characterized by the *titles of plays*: which light production was announced as coming from the pen of a *young lady*. In the above-mentioned page, RUSSIA is called *The Maiden Queen*,—GERMANY, *the Rivals*,—and the young PRETENDER, *a Midsummer Night's Dream*. Very recently, this same article has been attributed to George III. by the editor of a periodical Memoir. It might be rude to deny the veracity of a gentleman

by such paltry inventions, to embellish and enliven their pages, that very few will be inserted here relative to the deceased Prince of Wales. The one most honourable to his memory is thus recorded in Belsham's Memoirs, vol. i. p. 369: When the marriage of the Prince of Wales rendered an increase of his income desirable, the Prince determined to apply to the King for the same allowance which he had himself enjoyed; and finding no hope of attaining his right by that expedient, he next determined to apply to the Parliament, when he was advised by Mr. Bubb Doddington, (afterwards Lord Melcombe,) whom he had admitted into his confidence, to apply to Parliament for an *additional grant* of £50,000 per annum; but the Prince replied, with a generosity truly noble, "THAT THE NATION HAD DONE ENOUGH FOR HIS FAMILY ALREADY, AND THAT HE WOULD RATHER BEG HIS BREAD FROM DOOR TO DOOR, THAN BE A FARTHER CHARGE TO THEM."

The following anecdote has been taken from that light and entertaining publication, *the Percy Anecdotes*, the editor of which has omitted giving his authorities, whereby its value is greatly diminished: *viz.*

Frederick Prince of Wales, the father of King George III. passing through the Park in a chair, saw a ragged soldier approaching him, and immediately ordered the men to stop. "Where did you lose your arm, my friend?" said the Prince. "At Fontenoy," said the soldier. "You look pale;

who has expressed himself, in his introductory matter, in such vehement terms against *plagiarists*; but it would redound to his credit to favour the world with his authority: if it should prove that the editor has not been deceived, it will be fully demonstrated, that in the *ninth* year of his age, GEORGE III. had attained to such maturity of wisdom and learning, as to contribute to that erudite and entertaining work, *the London Magazine*, at the meridian of its fame!!

are you in bad health?"—"Yes, Sir; since the loss of my arm I have remained so feeble, that the least labour throws me into a fever."—"And why have you not applied to be put on the list of out-pensioners?"—"I have been promised that," said the soldier, "but wanting a friend, many others, less miserable, have been preferred before me." The Prince immediately presented the poor creature with four guineas, saying, "My friend, come and see me, and I will endeavour to get you provided for."

In the next sketches, which are original, there are some parts that appear suspicious; but in those, the Editor will assign the name and residence of his informant.

An ancient Scotch gardener, now in the eighty-ninth year of his age, whose eye-sight and memory are almost unimpaired, and his strength such as enables him still to work at his healthy calling, was employed in Prince Frederick's gardens at Kew, some years previous to his lamented death. According to the picture drawn of that Prince by this veteran, he was one of the most generous, indulgent, and humane of masters. Far from displaying that false dignity, which so often keeps the *little great* at a distance from their indigent fellow-creatures, it appears to have been a maxim with that benevolent Prince, to consider that he who is born to rule a nation, should be most intimately acquainted with its taste, manners, and pursuits. Whether he regarded his marriage with the Princess of Saxe-Gotha as a *sacrifice* made to the welfare of the state, or that Mr. Bubb Doddington, for some secret and sinister purpose of his own, interpolated that declaration in his Diary,—according to this old Scotchman, the parents of George III. apparently lived together in the most perfect and unbroken state of domestic harmony. He has often seen Prince Frederick, with all the alacrity of

youth, enter into the sports of his playful children. The summer before his death, he played a match at trap-ball in Kew Gardens, against his two sons, George and Edward; when Prince George, suspecting his father had counted too many, called upon the gardener for his testimony, who gave it against his royal master. "There's a guinea for your honesty," said Frederick: "Now play away, my boy George," continued he, "and I'll soon beat you and Ned, to your hearts' content, and without cheating!"

The Princess, Lady Middlesex, and several of the royal children, were seated under a marquee, delighted with the contest, when victory rested with the youthful pair, in defiance of the utmost efforts of their parent, at whom they laughed most heartily.

Another gardener, named John Lowe, who was born at Kintor, in North Britain, who is yet active, healthy, and also blessed with unimpaired sight and memory, resides at Stoke-Newington. This man also retains the most vivid and perfect recollection of Frederick Prince of Wales; and Lowe's narration fully corroborates that of his senior countryman. He describes Prince Frederick as taking the utmost pains to render his *boy George* less reserved and bashful; and represents the latter, in his twelfth year, to have been tall, well grown, a well-looking, but not an elegant made boy. His hair, that was very light flaxen colour, and of profuse growth, he wore in large ringlets on the temples, turned in in front, and tied with a ribbon behind. A strong family resemblance, existing in a particular cast of countenance, ran through the whole of the children; and that of Prince George was very particularly marked by his high retreating forehead, and pouting lip. He wore at this period frilled shirts, tied with a black ribbon. His complexion was uncommonly fair and florid; but he

was rather in-kneed, which was imputed to his rapid growth. He describes his dress as being plainer than that of the children of opulent and dashing tradesmen; his manners as very gentle; his temper mild and even, seldom given to anger, but, when offended, slow to forget. Prince Frederick was passionately fond of rural life; and when at Kew, he spent much of his time in the gardens and pleasure-grounds; but he was seldom seen without one or more of his children with him; and when the hay-harvest came, he used to indulge them in all manner of innocent freedom, suffering them to pile the hay upon him in heaps, and give the fullest scope to their love of such harmless sports. Such were then *the diversions at Kew!*

It was a standing rule at Kew, that none of the Prince's labourers, gardeners, or tradesmen, were to move their hats to the Prince, Princess, or his family, except spoken to; and then, never to use any other appellatives than Sir, or Madam, to the Prince and Princess, and Master, or Miss, to the royal children. The young Princes would sometimes take up the gardeners' tools, and try to imitate their work; when their father used to make them pay a forfeit, called *their footing*, of a crown, to the men. He frequently unbent himself by such recreations; and when he had been detained in London two or three days, he used to say, in the hearing of Lowe, that he would not be confined to live always there for any possible gain; and often expressed his amazement at people living in such crowded places, in an atmosphere full of coal smoke, to gain money, whilst the sulphur they swallowed, destroying their health, shortened their lives, and prevented them from enjoying their treasures after they were gained.

Prince Frederick did not pay his work-people higher wages than *his neighbours*, the farmers or master gardeners; but he took care *to see* that they

had a moderate plenty of very excellent beer, and frequent donations of cold meat, bread and cheese, and, in winter, clothes and fuel. He was particularly partial to those who would answer his questions in a plain, respectful, easy, and unlaboured manner, free from embarrassment. After he had become *acquainted*, as he called it, with his work-people, he would take his sons and daughter to their cottages, and make them converse with the matrons and their offspring; giving them money or toys to distribute amongst them, by which means they became universally beloved.

One of John Lowe's anecdotes respecting the late King, appeared to the Editor so very questionable, that he was inclined to dismiss it unrecorded; but the venerable narrator having not only affirmed its positive truth, but added that he was himself present when the occurrence happened, he changed his mind, under the impression, that a man of his great age, and apparent respectability, would not degrade himself by such paltry artifices as would lead to deception.

John Lowe asserts, that during Epsom Races, and, as he believes, the last summer which Prince Frederick lived to see, he was walking with Prince George on the Downs near Lord Baltimore's kitchen-garden wall. Some boys were playing at marbles on the walk, when the young Prince, accidentally displacing one of their *taws*, gave great offence to a dirty ragged boy, who used very rude and unbecoming language, telling him, that for all his fine clothes, he had a great mind to give him a handsome drubbing. Prince George seemed unusually indignant, at his apology being refused, and credence denied to his word. "That's a saucy blackguard, George," said the Prince of Wales; "as he says he has an inclination to fight you, will you indulge his wish?"—"If you please, Sir," said George, rather daunted. The Prince

took the combatants into Lord Baltimore's garden, where the contest took place; but though his *boy George* fought manfully, the victory rested with his plebeian adversary. The clothes which Prince George then wore were much soiled, his locks dishevelled, and his face besmeared with blood. "Never mind, George," said his father; "you have acted like a hero; never suffer yourself to be insulted: he's older and stronger than you, and, if he has gained the victory, you have lost no honour." The young Prince was, however, much out of temper; probably he was more hurt on account of the defeat he had sustained, than from the pain of the blows he had received.

This narrative certainly reflects no credit on the judgment of the Father of the late King, who ought not on any consideration to have allowed of the rencounter.

The narrator said, that he never knew of any death, excepting only that of the late Princess Charlotte of Wales, which was so generally and deeply regretted; and that, of all his numerous offspring, Prince George seemed most powerfully affected; his pale cheeks, and dejected countenance, according to the testimony of David Lindsay, shewed how sincere and heartfelt was his grief.

The memory of the old gardener appearing thus powerful, he was asked whether he had ever heard of the Prince and Princess of Wales going to see conjurers, gipsies, and fortune-tellers, at Norwood, and other fairs? He answered in the affirmative. He said, "The Prince went *for fun*, and to shew his son the humours of the *Cockneys*; but it was whispered, that the Princess of Wales was very much addicted to such people, and had great faith in their divinations." He said, that "Prince George was so affectionate and respectful in his carriage towards his father and mother, that it was not easy

to say of which he was most fond." Of whom did he stand most in dread? "Of his mother." Was his reserve and bashfulness of that stamp which arises from want of intellect? "Not at all: it seemed to be the boy's nature. He was seldom either so noisy or playsome as his brother Edward, who was afterwards Duke of York." Was the King remarkably fond of this brother? "Very particularly so. Prince Edward was less careful of his money; and when his week's allowance was all gone, which was generally the case the day after pay-day, he used to have recourse to his brother George's, who never murmured. It was the same with their toys and books. Edward might take just what he pleased; but the same indulgence was not allowed to his eldest sister, the Princess Augusta; she was a year older, and her brothers told her she took too much upon herself." Was he generous to the poor, or to his menial attendants? "Not equal to Prince Edward. If he could steal away from his masters, he used to get amongst the work-people, and throwing up some silver, let them tussle for it. Prince George did not act thus, but he was uncommonly sedate."—Such were the queries put to this interesting old man, who described their dress and manners as readily as if he had recently seen them.

Frederick Prince of Wales was interred on Saturday evening, the 13th day of April; and the Monday following was the birth-day of the Duke of Cumberland, who then entered the thirty-first year of his age. The Duke was supposed to be his father's minion, and an inveterate enemy to the deceased Prince, whose funeral he did not attend, and whose family he was reproached for having wholly neglected. It was also thought highly indecorous that he held a grand levee in the *morning*, in his apartments at St. James's, and at *noon* the King received the congratulations of the nobi-

lity; on which occasion one of the Jacobitical publications observed, "If there was a *ball* at night, as reported, *deep mourning* and *brisk dancing* confirmed the justice of Swift's remark, that '*the merriest faces are often seen in mourning coaches.*'"

The following lines were written in consequence of this unseemly admixture of Funereal solemnities and Court festivities :

"For peaceful Frederick whilst each Briton mourns,
Lo! the *great warrior*—WILLIAM's day returns;
Alike our bells respect each royal brother,
And having *toll'd* for one, *ding-dong* for t'other."

The following Epitaph is not destitute of wit, but its *malice* is equally conspicuous :

"Here lies within this holy place,
Have mercy, Lord, upon him,
A weasel in a leaden case,
Exempt from human plagues, unless
You lay his brother on him.

"Yet tho' he's dead, 'tis hard that he
Should be so long deserted;
Death should no longer cruel be,
Since all good people do agree,
'*Tis pity they were parted.*"

If the father of the late King had lived, it is probable he would have changed his residence, or made some addition to its capacity. Soon after his death, the Princess of Wales hired or purchased the house of Sir George Saville, adjoining Leicester House, for the accommodation of Prince George and his brother Edward, wherein the Earl of Harcourt, governor to the young Princes, Doctor Hayer, bishop of Norwich, their head preceptor, Doctor Lee, Mr. Scott, &c. attached to their service, had apartments assigned them. About this period the King made his grandsons a present of

four beautiful horses for their own use, selected from the stud kept in the Mews at Charing Cross. Even at this early period of life, the late King was very fond of horses, and had a bold and graceful attitude and appearance in taking his equestrian exercises.

Upon Prince Frederick's death, the King appointed the Princess Amelia *Ranger* of Richmond Park; an appointment that gave umbrage to the Princess of Wales: and the Princess, who was by no means a favourite with the public, was reproached in some of the journals for betraying such an impatience for possession, as not even to wait till the remains of the late Prince was interred. The *True Briton*, a notorious Jacobitical publication, whose pages were devoted to every kind of calumny directed against the Brunswick Family, published the following satirical paragraph, levelled at that lady:

"We hear that a certain GREAT LADY is recovered from her late indisposition, who is remarkable for her good management, in rather SELLING VENISON to her neighbours, than giving it to her own family, whom she may reasonably think not to merit such sort of food!"

By another paragraph, it seems that the *Lady Ranger*, although she knew that the Princess was *ancient*, and as remarkable as QUIN for a fondness of venison, did not pay her the compliment to send her any; whilst it was reported that venison was sold to the neighbouring gentry at the rate of four guineas for a fat buck! The Duke of Newcastle, then Secretary of State, was enumerated amongst the purchasers of the royal deer; an assertion which throws additional doubts on the whole story, as, *no doubt*, his Grace could obtain royal venison on much easier terms.

Soon after the death of his father, the Lord Chancellor, by the King's command, presented

Prince George with his patent, whereby he was *created* PRINCE of *Wales*, from which period crowds of venal suitors paid their servile court to the royal youth, in whom they discovered the most brilliant talents, fascinating manners, and beautiful lineaments, none of which were equally perceptible till he became *Heir apparent to the Crown*. The young Prince is represented by his old servants, as not assuming the least authority, or changing his manners with his change of fortune; but, conducting himself with the same amenity of demeanour, he gained the love and admiration of all his dependants. This trait may be relied on as being genuine truth; and it is interesting, as it proves, throughout the long life of George III. that he was distinguished by the same noble contempt of pageantry, and indifference to the flattery of fawning courtiers, which never forsook him, in adversity or prosperity.

On Thursday, 25th April, 1751, the newly created PRINCE of WALES had the honour to kiss his royal Grandfather's hand, upon his accession to his late Father's title; and at the same time, in a solemn and highly becoming manner, the young Prince delivered to the King, the insignia of the order of the Garter, which his late Father had worn.

The next day, the King sent the following gracious message to the House of Lords, by the Duke of *Newcastle*; and, at the same time, another to the House of Commons, by the Honourable *Henry Pelham*, Esq.

GEORGE R.

His Majesty having it entirely at heart to secure the future welfare and happiness of his People, has maturely considered, that nothing can conduce so much, under the protection of Divine Providence, to the preservation of the Protestant succession in his royal Family, and the support of the religion, laws, and liberties of these kingdoms, (which have always

been most dear to him,) as the making proper provision for the care and tuition of the person of his successor, and for the regular administration of the government, in case such successor should be of tender years; by means whereof their safety and princely education may be secured, the public peace and good order maintained, and the strength and glory of the crown of *Great Britain* suffer no diminution. For these reasons, His Majesty, out of his paternal affection and tenderness for his royal Family, and for all his faithful subjects, earnestly recommends it to both Houses of Parliament, to take this weighty affair into their most serious deliberation; and proposes to their consideration, that when the imperial crown of these realms shall descend to any of the issue of his son the late Prince of Wales, their Mother should be guardian of the person of his successor, and Regent of these kingdoms, until they attain that age, with such powers and limitations as shall appear necessary and expedient for those important purposes.

To the address from the Lords and Commons, in consequence of the preceding message, the King returned the following most gracious answer:

MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN,

I return you my most hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address: the zeal you express for me and my Family, and the sense you shew of my care and concern for the interest of my people, is very agreeable to me.

The King received the addresses of both Houses of Parliament with unusual magnificence. His Majesty was seated in a chair of state, under a splendid canopy. At his right hand side stood the young Prince of WALES; on his left, the Duke of Cumberland. The Lord Chancellor, on the part of the House of Lords, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, respectively attended by several members of either House, presented the address to His Majesty. It was read by the Lord Chancellor, and when he named the House of Peers, he made a low obeisance; as did the Speaker of the lower House, when the Commons were named.

The Jacobitical scribes, seizing with avidity every opportunity of exposing and aggravating the domestic dissensions which still remained to divide the Royal Family, amongst other squibs, published the following, *viz.*

“ We can assure the public, (says the Editor of the *True Briton*, 1st May, 1751,) that our two Universities are at this time employed in composing verses of *condolence*, to be presented to His Majesty on the melancholy occasion of the death of the late Prince FREDERICK. ’Tis expected the performance will be *highly finished*, as they require so long a time to ripen the birth.”

“ A great common sewer having been lately opened, in order to be enlarged, a number of *Rats* have come from thence into the neighbouring buildings, and are very ravenous and fond of blood. There have been for a long time *nests of Rats*, which burrow in the old walls; but these are of a *larger species*, and *said to have been brought from abroad.*”

The edifice thus coarsely alluded to, was Leicester House, then being enlarged; and the *rats*, the time-serving courtiers, of whom many had changed their political doctrines at the death of their late master, and commenced operations *de novo*, in the new characters of *Revolutionary Tories*. This is an appellation which arose from their equivocal conduct, and as such they are denominated by Mr. Belsham.

Every hour added to the number of mercenary idolaters of the rising sun. The Society of the British Herring Fishery, having, on Saturday the 4th of May, unanimously elected George Prince of Wales to be their Governor, in the place of his late Father; on the following Friday they waited upon His Royal Highness at Leicester House, to announce their intentions, when their President addressed the Prince in a speech which was not

deficient in flattery, as its perusal will convince the reader: *viz.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

The President, Vice-President, Council, and Society, of the Free British Fishery, encouraged by His Majesty's royal approbation, humbly approach Your Royal Highness, to entreat your favourable acceptance of being their Governor, an honour condescended to by your illustrious and much lamented Father, whose princely virtues were eminently conspicuous, by his constant attention to, and his generous concern for, the welfare of the kingdom, and the prosperity of its commerce.

As we consider the success of this national undertaking, from which the most lasting advantages are expected, to have greatly depended upon his gracious protection, we cannot but hope for the *same benefits* from the influence of Your Royal Highness, *the inheritor of all his virtues*; and therefore, Sir, we beseech you to take this Fishery under your protection, which will add new vigour to our endeavours, and prove the most *auspicious omen* of its success.

If it be considered that the young Prince had not quite completed his *thirteenth* year, the preposterous folly of addressing the royal youth in such a strain of adulation, must be evident to every reflecting mind. The Prince received the gentlemen very politely, and each of them had the honour of kissing his hand. The answer which His Royal Highness returned was thus worded:

GENTLEMEN,

I return you my thanks for this mark of duty to the King, and of your regard to me. You may be assured I shall always be glad to contribute every thing in my power to the success of your laudable attempt, for extending the commerce of His Majesty's subjects.

This affair is not intrinsically worth the space it occupies, but that it chanced to be the *first* formal address His late Majesty ever received from a

corporate body. In a future stage of this work, the *last* ceremony of that kind will be duly marked.

Great and serious objections were made to the provisions of the Regency Bill, in both Houses of Parliament. It was, indeed, a most anomalous measure, and would have proved utterly incompetent to guard any interests but those of its framers, if the aged King had died before his youthful Heir had attained his majority. The Princess, his mother, would have found herself reduced to a mere cipher, and forced to coalesce with some or other of the ministers of the Crown, who would have grasped a power incompatible with the lustre of the crown, or the security of public liberty. Happily, the King lived long enough to render it a dead letter, or the consequences might have been highly injurious, not only to the reigning Family, but to the safety of the empire.

The Council appointed to *assist* Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales, in case of His Majesty's demise, as Regent of the kingdom, till the Prince of WALES should have attained his EIGHTEENTH year, included the following persons: namely, the Duke of Cumberland, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the First Lord of the Treasury, the President of the Privy Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the two principal Secretaries of State, and the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

It was strongly objected to, that the Speaker of the House of Commons was not included in the number; and it was animadverted on as a singular feature in the selection, that there was neither a *Scotch* nor an *Irish* man amongst the Council of Regency. But where such jarring interests prevailed, no measures could escape censure, and no selections would have given satisfaction to all parties.

In the course of the year 1751, a person was apprehended in London, on suspicion of being the **PRETENDER**, who was soon afterwards discharged by Mr. Justice Fielding. The following anecdote, selected from the *Walpoliana*, reflects much honour upon the good sense and humanity of George II. in respect to his disposition towards the legitimate heirs to his throne, and leaves room to suppose, if the unfortunate Prince had by chance been taken prisoner, that he would have been regarded as a prisoner of war, and treated as became his high lineage, and near connection with the family on the throne: *viz.*

George II. had good intelligence from the continent; and sometimes used to surprise his ministers with information which they had not. He one day asked Lord Holderness, who was then Secretary of State, where the Pretender was? "Upon my word, Sire, I do not exactly know; I should suppose somewhere in Italy, but I'll consult my last dispatches."—"Poh, poh, man, don't trouble your head about your last dispatches: I'll tell you where he is. He is now at No. —, in the Strand, and was last night at Lady ———'s route: what shall we do with him?" Lord Holderness, surprised at this account, proposed calling a council. "No! no! we shall manage this business without a council; let him stay where he is at present, and when the poor man has amused himself with looking about London, he will go home again." The fact turned out exactly as the King said.

EDWARD BURK, a poor Scotchman, whose fidelity, after the fatal battle of Culloden, saved the above-named Prince from captivity and menaced death, died in the course of this year: in honour of whose memory the following lines were composed, and announced, in the *True Briton*, as being intended to be inscribed on his tomb: *viz.*

To perpetuate the Memory of EDWARD BURK, who
died on Saturday, November 23, 1751.

Born in an humble Cottage,
And of mean Parents,
In the Isle of *North Uist*,
Ignorant of the first principles of human learning,*
Doom'd to converse with the meanest of mankind,†
And exposed to the various temptations of poverty.

Happy in these disadvantages!

Since thereby
His genuine worth
Was the more conspicuous.

FIDELITY,

And disinterested Friendship,
Eclipsed his other Virtues.

Let the venal Tribe behold, and admire, and blush;
If yet a Blush remains!

Learn by his Example, O ye Great!

He preferred a good Conscience
TO THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS.

Sir Robert Walpole's political system attached a bad character to a certain *unpopular* assembly, against whose corrupt majorities the nation complained with scarcely less vehemence, than at any subsequent period. The following squibs were published at the commencement of this year:

ST. STEPHEN'S *Orders to the KEEPER of his CHAPEL.*

Some hold that *Saints* may stray from heav'n;
These will believe us when we tell 'em,
That yesterday the good St. *Stephen*
Stroll'd down to see his *old sacellum*.

The martyr, tho' most most gentle-hearted,
'Tis said some anger he express'd,
To see his house, so long deserted,
Nor warm'd against his *annual feast*.

* He could not read.

† Was a Chairman at Edinburgh,

Besides, he noted to the keeper,
That during winters *more than thirty*,
The place had been without a *sweeper*,
And ev'ry *season* grew more dirty.

He added, and then took his flight,
"By this day three week air and clean it,
But, from that day, to keep all right,
Admit no *dirty fellow* in it."

The KEEPER'S Answer to ST. STEPHEN.

O Stephen, Stephen, Saint divine,
How hard's the task which you enjoin!
"*Clean my sacellum*," didst thou say?
O that I could thy will obey!

For when I went the other day,
To view the state in which it lay,
Sighing, I said, "I'm full as able
To cleanse the fam'd Augean stable!"

Such is the load of filthy soil,
'Twould even great Alcides toil.
There I beheld a pamper'd dame,
I think *Corruption* was her name;

She seem'd the guardian of the place,
And looking sternly in the face,
Cried—"Hence, thou fool! should Stephen come,
I'd say—for *Saints here is no room*."

O insolence! such words demand
The fury of a vengeful hand.
Rise, then, ye *Saints*, with Stephen join,
And drive this MONSTER from his shrine.

The death of Frederick Prince of Wales caused a complete revolution in the establishment at Leicester House. Amongst the favoured individuals, was the SELWYN family. John Selwyn, Esq. M. P. for Gloucester, was nominated Treasurer to the young Prince; and his near relatives, John Selwyn, junior, member for Whitchurch, and George

Augustus Selwyn,* who represented Luggershall, were appointed Grooms of his Bedchamber. The latter was then in the flower of life; and the account which he gave of the personal qualities of the young Prince, to a person who witnessed George Selwyn's last breath, and by whom his sentiments were communicated to the Editor, fully corroborated and confirmed the opinion expressed by the illustrious Author of the Seasons, regarding the intellectual capacity of the royal boy. Mr. Selwyn, as he lay on his death-bed, conversing with the late Duke of Queensbury, relative to the different characters and dispositions of Prince Frederick's children, said, the KING had the greatest share of sense and good-nature, and was, from a boy, remarkably sedate and tractable. MATILDA, the last of his numerous offspring, he described as being the most beautiful of his daughters; and Mr. Selwyn ever expressed the keenest sorrow for her misfortunes. From the situation he held about the person of the late King, he must have been a competent judge of his boyish disposition, and early capacity; and he described him as possessing not brilliant, yet respectable talents; but not as an awkward, a shy, and backward boy, addicted to childish habits, as he is seen depicted in Doddington's Diary. The testimony of John Lowe is also highly favourable, and of considerable weight. He had frequent opportunities of witnessing the conduct, and hearing the conversation, of the late King, when young; and his opinion is the

* A description of the last moments of this celebrated wit and *bon-vivant*, with some very curious and interesting particulars, relative to his adopted (or natural) daughter, the ex-Lady YARMOUTH, will be given further on; derived from the lips of the individual whom Mr. Selwyn dispatched to Italy, to watch the house of the Marquis and Marchioness F—n—i, and steal their infant daughter, then in the fourth year of her age.

more valuable, because he had received the advantage of a good education, added to quick natural parts; and cannot be rationally suspected of uttering any falsehoods.

It is the misfortune of kings to be drawn in caricature, during every period of their lives. In private, it is only to a few that they become accessible; and in too many instances, these have either some individual interest to serve, or some revenge to gratify; so that the delineation of character which they give receives a tinge from the predominant disposition, which associates either with gratitude, expectation, jealousy, or disappointment. Aware that every action, however minute, must be subject to the severest scrutiny, monarchs can hardly ever be off their guard, nor find an opportunity, unless they retire into the privacy of their own domestic circle, to throw off the shackles of restraint.

In his younger years, His late Majesty was much secluded from public observation; and those who had an opportunity of watching his temper and manners furnish accounts that are conflicting, and occasionally inconsistent. Before the gardeners and workmen, our late Monarch, when a boy, could have no inducement to conceal his prevailing propensities. On this account their testimonies are entitled to much credit; and it is pleasing to observe, that these are highly favourable to his youthful character and natural disposition.

CHAPTER VIII.

Change of the Style.—A month which contained only nineteen days.—Deplorable Effects of Ignorance and Superstition displayed.—Anecdote of the late King, communicated by the celebrated George Selwyn.—Early proofs of a liberal and benevolent mind.—Character of the Year 1751, by Smollet.—Illustration of enormous Crimes.—Royal Excursions.—Family Intercourse.—Birth of the Princess Matilda, afterwards Queen of Denmark.—First Military Review, in honour of the late King.—Death, and amiable Character, of Louisa Queen of Denmark.—Privileges of the House of Commons.—Arbitrary Arrest.—Comments thereon.—Birth-day Ode, in honour of the Prince of Wales.—Operation of the Act for changing the Style.—The effects of prejudice in a Duke and a Clown.—Dissensions in the Prince of Wales's Household.—Secret Influence of Lord Bute.—Picture of the British Court in 1752.—Royal Dialogue.—Education of the late King.—Important Document, relative to his Education.

THE birth-day of the Prince of WALES was celebrated with great rejoicings on Friday the 24th of May, when His late Majesty entered into the fourteenth year of his age. This was the last anniversary of his natal day that was kept in this month; for only two days previously, the Bill received the Royal assent for correcting the calendar; in consequence of which the birth-day of our late Monarch fell on the 4th of June.

By the Julian Calendar, the year was fixed at 365 days and six hours; but the true solar year, containing only 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, and 16 seconds, there was an excess of time each

year admitted by the Julian Calendar, which, in the course of 134 years, amounted to one day. By which means the vernal equinox, in the year 1751, occurred on the 10th of March, which, in Julius Cæsar's lifetime, happened on the 24th.

In 1582, Pope Gregory caused this irregularity to be corrected; but he went no further back than the Council of Nice, which was held A. D. 325; and as he found that the vernal equinox fell then on the 21st day of March, he commanded ten days of the year 1582 to be omitted, and his birth-day, which had previously been celebrated on the 5th of October, he called the 15th, by which the vernal equinox, the ensuing year, happened on the 21st of March.

The new Act ordained, that instead of the year commencing on the 25th of March, as formerly, it should date from the first day of January. In the second place, that the days of the month should go on as usual till the 2d of September, 1752, when the *third* was to be reckoned as the *fourteenth*, omitting for that time only the eleven days.

This wise and useful alteration gave great offence to the illiterate part of the nation, which, at this period, was of greater extent than at the present day, and included ten times the number of persons of property. In some remote places, the change gave rise to ludicrous contentions, which, in some cases, threatened serious consequences; and many old rustics declared, that bad as the *Scotch Kings* had been, in cheating them of their religion, and destroying their liberty, none of them had gone *so far* as to rob the nation of *eleven days' time!* And to afford an instance of the ignorance and barbarity which existed close to the Metropolis, at this period, it will be only necessary to state, that on Monday, April the 22d, a mob, consisting of several thousand ignorant or furious ruffians, assembled at Tring, in Hertfordshire, from the neighbouring

parishes, in consequence of its having been proclaimed by the public criers, that Ruth Osborne, a poor aged woman, was a witch, and her husband, John Osborne, a wizard. A tumult being expected, instead of removing the destined victims of savage ignorance from the neighbourhood, and apprehending the knavish publisher who had denounced the poor couple, they were first placed in the workhouse, whence, for greater security, they were removed to the vestry-room, near the church. At the announced time, the mob, supposed to consist of 5000 persons, entered Tring,—proceeded to the workhouse, and not finding their victims, threatened the governor with death, and the whole town with conflagration. They demolished part of the poor-house, and even sought the old couple in the *salt-box*, that could not have contained an infant! They then prepared straw, whereby to set the town on fire, and were proceeding to murder the master of the workhouse, when, to save his own life, he told the monsters where Osborne and his wife were to be found. Thither they rushed,—tore the feeble wife, and more robust husband, from that sanctuary, and dragged them to Marlesten Meer, a pond two miles distant, stripped them naked, tied their thumbs to their great toes, and then tied them separately up in large cloths, or sheets. The cowardly assassins then fixed a rope round their bodies, the ends of which were held by the mob-leaders on either side the pond, and the miserable creatures were drawn to and fro, till they appeared nearly dead. They were then drawn through the mud, thrown on the banks, and kicked and cuffed in the most ferocious and merciless manner. The woman was tortured by a savage named COLLEY, who turned her over and over in the mud, lifting her up, and dashing her down, as a savage dog is sometimes seen to worry a cat to death; and then, proud of the hellish exploit, the

monster, more than half drunk, pulled off his hat, and went round the company to collect money, as a recompense for the rare sport he had afforded. These facts were proved on the trial of COLLEY for wilful murder; but so inveterate was the ignorance of the rustics, that they spoke of his sentence as most cruel and unjust. This chief of the murderers was hung near the spot where he had committed this horrible outrage, on the 24th August, 1751; but it was deemed necessary to have a troop of horse to escort him to the gallows he had so richly merited. It was intended he should have suffered a week sooner; but the dread of a rescue prevented it. Crowds of superstitious creatures, perhaps accomplices in his crime, assembling round the gaol at St. Alban's, exclaimed, it was a shame to hang a man for destroying an old woman who had bewitched *so many cattle!* and comparatively few attended at his execution. The just sentence, by which the cruel ruffian had been condemned to yield his own life for having so wantonly murdered the woman, and nearly destroyed her husband, was fully enforced, and his remains were hung in chains, near the side of the pond, which had been the theatre of an exploit of such unparalleled atrocity.

It was reported, in the journals of the day, that of *thirty* persons apprehended as having participated in this foul murder, scarcely two could read or write; and that several were persons of small property, and, till then, of unblemished lives; but a ridiculous belief in witches, and the public denunciation of those poor people by the common crier, at Winslow, Leighton-Buzzard, and Hamel-Hempstead, roused the resentment of the populace, and their extreme ignorance fitted them for the enjoyment of a scene, which they would have shunned with horror, had their minds been enlightened.

The Hon. George Selwyn stated, that this transaction was heard of by the late King, who expressed the most lively concern for the sufferings of the poor couple; and sent privately a present of money to the husband, who survived. He asked his preceptor to what such shocking wickedness could be owing? who told the young Prince, that superstition was the offspring of ignorance, and the parent of this lamentable outrage. "Then (said he) why are the people not instructed? I think their ignorance is rather a misfortune than a crime." Such was the feeling of the late Monarch when only a mere boy, as related by one of the great officers of his first establishment; and certainly it bespoke the noblest of sentiments, and gave the fairest promise of that moral purity of character, in which, viewed abstractedly, and wholly unconnected with the politics of his Court, he excelled every monarch, that, since the extinction of the Saxon line of kings, had wielded the British sceptre; and if he had an equal amongst these, it could be no other than the great and good Alfred. No instance can be found in history, of a despotic monarch having been the patron of UNIVERSAL EDUCATION; for the most formidable foe to tyranny is KNOWLEDGE; on the contrary, its most terrible weapon is superstition. Hence the character of the late King must be regarded by the lover of truth, as the greatest of benefactors to mankind, by his uniform patronage of the unlettered poor, and by removing the barriers which had, till his auspicious reign, been opposed by unfeeling power, and an intolerant priesthood, to their education.

The period at which this horrid catastrophe happened at Tring, teemed with stupendous crimes, as well as exalted proofs of individual worth and high endowments. It was thus characterized by SMOLLET, in his continuation of HUME's history:

"Rapine and robbery had domineered without

intermission ever since the return of peace; but now, crimes of a deeper dye seemed to lift up their heads, in contempt of law and humanity. Every day almost produced fresh instances of perjury, forgery, fraud, and circumvention; and the kingdom exhibited a most amazing jumble of virtue and vice, honour and infamy, compassion and obduracy, sentiment and brutality. An indulgent parent* was poisoned by an only daughter, on whom, besides other marks of paternal affection, he had bestowed a liberal education, which greatly aggra-

* The first instance cited, alluded to the murder of Mr. FRANCIS BLANDY, in August, 1751: he perished, in extreme agony, of poison, which his only child, MARY BLANDY, had given him in some gruel. She was hung at Oxford, on the 8th of April, 1752, in the 35th year of her age. Her father, in some measure, contributed to his own destruction, by encouraging false reports, that his daughter would have £10,000 to her fortune; which attracted many mercenary lovers, and successively ended in disappointment, not free from reproach. The Hon. W. H. Cranston was more guilty than the daughter, for he had gained her affections long previous to this catastrophe; concealing his marriage with a lady in Scotland, and passing for a single man. About the year 1748, he was privately married to Miss Blandy; but her mother dying, and a knowledge of his real character reaching the father, Cranston found himself an unwelcome visitor, and reluctantly withdrew. A correspondence however took place between him and his English wife, who was unhappily but too anxious for his return. To remove the cause of their separation, and the obstacle to their re-union, he sent in his letters to her some portion of a deadly poison, which, at his instigation, she administered; not even concealing the act. The dying father imputed the guilt to Cranston: the fatal powders were disguised in his letters, as merely intended to polish some Scotch pebbles. The unhappy woman, to save Cranston, destroyed his letters, concealed her marriage, and declared with her latest breath, that she was innocent of the *intention*, though guilty of the fact, of having killed her father. Cranston remained in the kingdom several months; after which he fled to France, and died, in the 46th year of his age, in the most excessive torment, at Furnes, in Flanders, a member of the Catholic church. The death of this profligate man was so peculiarly terrible, that it impressed the world with a strong opinion it was inflicted by the hand of God, to punish those crimes which the laws of man could not reach.

vated her guilt and ingratitude. Another young woman was concerned in the assassination of her own uncle,* who had been her constant benefactor, and sole guardian. A poor old woman, having, from the ignorance and superstition of her neighbours, incurred the suspicion of sorcery and witchcraft, was murdered by the populace,† in Hertfordshire, with all the wantonness of barbarity. Rape and murder were perpetrated upon an unfortunate woman, near London,‡ and an innocent man suffered

* The second instance quoted by Doctor Smollet, was the murder of a retired butcher, named JEFFRIES, who resided at Walthamstow, in Essex. The murderers were, his niece Elizabeth Jeffries, and his servant John Swan. The niece instigated the servant to commit this crime, by whom she was thought to be pregnant. It appears by the confessions of the criminals, who were well-looking young people, about twenty-two years old, that the uncle, during the lifetime of his wife, had debauched his niece, the daughter of his own brother; had had a child by her when she was under sixteen years of age; had afterwards caused an abortion; and just before this shocking catastrophe, had taken up with the servant woman, and threatened to turn his niece out of doors! Thus early initiated in vice, by this incestuous old wretch, it is not wonderful she became addicted to illicit pleasures. Swan was one of her paramours, and him she persuaded to murder her uncle; after they had jointly endeavoured to induce a man, named Matthews, to dispatch him. The wretched pair were carried from Chelmsford gaol to Epping Forest, a distance of twenty-six miles, and there executed. The murder took place on the 3rd of July, 1751; and they were hung 28th of March, 1752.

† The murder of the poor old woman at Tring, which forms the third case mentioned by the historian, has already been given.

‡ The last, and perhaps the most frightful of all, was the murder of a woman named Sarah Green, who was ravished and wounded on the 23rd of July, 1748, and died soon after in St. Thomas's Hospital. For this murder, a brewer's clerk, named Richard Coleman, was tried and executed: he was a married man, had two infant children, and to the last moment declared his innocence. In August, 1750, WELCH, who was one of the ravishers, declared that himself, and one Jones, and Nicholls, were the guilty persons, and that Coleman was innocent: this was concealed till 1751; when the young man, to whom Welch had

death for this complicated outrage; whilst the real criminals assisted at the execution, heard him appeal to Heaven for his innocence, and, in the character of friends, embraced him when he stood on the brink of eternity."

It is scarcely possible for the most skilful writer of romance to invent a series of fabricated crimes, which, without violating probability, should exceed in atrocity the crimes, which, in the year 1751, to which the historian alluded, were juridically proved to have had a real existence. And the Editor conceives few of his readers will complain of an illustration being inserted in this Memoir, of that exuberance of wickedness, that so forcibly struck the attentive historian already quoted, which he has subjoined in the form of notes.

It does not appear that any real amity ever subsisted between the Princess of Wales and her father-in-law George II. although, after the death of the Prince her husband, there was a frequent interchange of visits. The King, on Saturday the 1st of June, went in a landau drawn by six horses, attended by the Earls of Lincoln and Pomfret, to Richmond Lodge, where the Princess Amelia then resided; where His Majesty was met by the Prince

declared this, told it to a police officer. The three criminals were then apprehended; Nicholls turned king's evidence, and at their trial at Kingston unfolded a scene of vice that shocked every auditor: the court was crowded to excess; the prisoners were condemned, and shortly afterwards hung. Thus was the life of an honest and innocent man, a husband and a father, wrongfully taken, by convicting him on circumstantial evidence alone.

Nearly about the same period, a man named WELLS was tried at Hertford, and afterwards hung upon her evidence, for having committed a rape upon his own daughter. The same man, by his brutal conduct to the mother, his wife, was generally supposed to have occasioned her death. Such were a few of the crimes of 1751.

of Wales, his brother Prince Edward, and his elder sister the Princess Augusta, who dined with their Grandfather: after which, the whole party went to Kew, where His Majesty drank tea, and, after remaining two hours with the young family, returned to his Palace at Kensington; and the following day, the Prince of Wales and Prince Edward went, for the first time, *in their own equipages*, to visit the King at Kensington Palace. On this occasion, the Prince of Wales's footmen appeared in his Father's livery; Prince Edward's was crimson turned up with green. They attended divine service in the Royal Chapel, with their Grandfather and his suite.

In April, 1752, a wretch, named Robert Lingard, who gave false evidence against Mr. Richard Coleman, in swearing positively that on the night when Sarah Green was murdered, he saw the accused go by his door between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, was convicted of WILFUL PERJURY; it being proved by three witnesses, that Lingard went drunk to bed between nine and ten o'clock, and they stayed till near twelve; and other evidence completed the proofs of his guilt. The villain was sentenced to stand in the pillory, be imprisoned one year, and transported seven years. He was *Crier* of the Marshalsea Court. He was placed in the pillory on the 18th of April, near St. George's church, Southwark. He had provided himself with a tin scull-plate under his cap; but such was the indignation of the populace, he was severely wounded, and bled profusely. The law was again in fault: DEATH, inflicted by its mandate, and not mutilation by a rabble, should have avenged the fate of poor COLEMAN.

The King, about this period, exchanged frequent visits with all his children and grandchildren; exhibiting a pleasing contrast to the seclusions and exceptions which had too often been

witnessed with deep concern by the nation at large : which took its rise with the accession of the King's father to the Crown ; prevailed throughout his reign ; and whose baleful influence had spread itself over the British Court, with short intervals of temporary pacifications, during the greater portion of the present reign. The posthumous MS. addressed to Frederick Prince of Wales, explains how greatly those family feuds encouraged the hopes of the enemies of the House of Brunswick. These pages have proved, how artfully the reigning discord was fomented by political artifices ; but the British people beheld with pleasure these demonstrations of returning peace and harmony, in a Family whose example, be it good or evil, was likely to have so powerful an influence.

On Saturday the 8th of June, the King honoured Prince Edward with the insignia of the Order of the Garter, which had been worn by his Royal Father ; and the same day, His Majesty, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward, and their elder sister Augusta, the late Duchess of Brunswick, set off from Kensington Palace in a landau drawn by six horses ; and, attended by the Earl of Harcourt and Lord Cathcart, proceeded to Kew Palace, where they breakfasted. From Kew, the King, accompanied by his grandchildren, drove to Richmond, and dined with the Duke of Newcastle. After a short stay, His Majesty, and his young protégés, drove to Hampton Court Palace, and drank tea with the Princess Amelia ; and thence the King returned to his solitary Palace at Kensington.

It has been already stated, that the Princess of Wales, at the time of the Prince her husband's death, was far advanced in her pregnancy. On Thursday morning, about six o'clock, the 11th of July, this posthumous child was born, the most beautiful and unfortunate of all her daughters ; for

her sorrows began even before her birth, her excellent Father having descended to the tomb before she was born. This was an event that she often deplored to Mr. George Selwyn; when, as she grew in years, the gentle and affectionate girl used to ask him endless questions about her departed Sire. Eleven days after her birth, this child was baptized by the too celebrated name CAROLINA-MATILDA; on which occasion, her eldest brother, the late King, was one of her sponsors, and the Princess Caroline, represented by Lady Irvin, and the Princess Augusta.

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, and Court of Aldermen, waited on His Majesty at Kensington, to congratulate him on the birth of a Princess, and to offer him their grateful thanks for his care in providing for the safety of the State, in the late Regency Bill; on which occasion Richard Adams, Esq. the Recorder, made the following speech:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, Your Majesty's loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, and Court of Aldermen, humbly beg leave to congratulate Your Majesty on the safe delivery of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and the birth of a Princess.

As we are truly sensible of the blessings we enjoy under Your Majesty's government, and are convinced that the security of our rights and liberties in time to come depends on the Protestant succession in your illustrious House, it is, at this time, a peculiar satisfaction to us, that we have once more the honour of congratulating Your Majesty on the increase of your Royal Family.

And, upon this occasion, permit us, Sire, to render you our dutiful thanks to Your Majesty, for a late signal instance of Your Majesty's paternal care of your People, in the provision made by Parliament for the future tranquillity of this kingdom: a provision, moving primarily from Your Majesty's goodness, and brought to perfection by Your Majesty's wisdom. Yet, wise and salutary as it is, we cannot forbear to express our wishes, that a long continuance of Your Majesty's life may render it unnecessary.

Fixed on these sentiments of duty and gratitude, our prayers shall always be, that Your Majesty may long reign over us; and that the Throne may be filled with Your Majesty's descendants even to remotest ages.

To which loyal address, the King replied :

I thank you for this fresh instance of your zeal and affection for me and my Family. The city of London may always depend upon the continuance of my favour and protection.

They were most graciously received, and each of them had the honour of kissing His Majesty's hand.

On Sunday, the 4th of August, the Court went into *half mourning* for the late Prince of Wales; on which occasion, some of the cynical wits amongst the partisans of the exiled family declared, that there was never any *real mourning*, from the hour of his death, felt by any one at Court.

The *True Briton* published the following satirical squibs, levelled at William Duke of Cumberland, namely: "Different papers give different accounts about the Chancellorship of the University of Dublin, since some say Prince *George*, some say Duke William, will be chosen; and they are both *so excellently fitted* for the post, that it may puzzle all the learned of that body to determine *which* of the two is the *better* qualified." This was paying an indirect and unintentional compliment to Prince GEORGE, whose learning and abilities, at thirteen years of age, were deemed equal to the Duke of Cumberland, at upwards of *thirty*.

The King, not having lost his former love of martial spectacles, commanded his son, the Duke of Cumberland, to prepare a grand military review at Woolwich Warren, in compliment to his grandsons, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward. Accordingly, on Monday, the 5th of August, their Royal Highnesses, the Duke of Cumberland, the

Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward, went by water in a state barge, attended by the Earl of Albemarle, and other persons of distinction, in two other of His Majesty's barges, to Woolwich. Nearly 400 matrosses, gunners, &c. were under arms, and gave the greatest satisfaction to all present. They were drawn up early in the morning, and the whole was not concluded till three in the afternoon. As it was the first time that place had been honoured with a visit by the Prince, a particular spirit of emulation distinguished itself amongst the men, who were desirous to appear as spruce and neat as possible, the poorest not begrudging to be at some expense for that purpose.

The matrosses went through the several parts of the exercise with uncommon accuracy, and performed their firing in platoons, and otherwise, with the greatest exactness. Six pieces of cannon were drawn out, and the gunners, &c. attendant on them, gained universal applause, by the expedition with which they charged, and the regularity of the fire. The men discharged sixteen rounds, and the cannon near 500 shot. The whole body marched several times before their Royal Highnesses, first in divisions, afterwards one by one, the cannon drawn before them every time by men.

“The men (says the Editor of the *True Briton*) were exposed to great fatigue: a heavy shower of rain fell during the review, yet not the least murmuring was there heard, so much had they at heart the reputation of the corps, and the honour of the service. After the review, above sixty pieces of new cannon were proved; and the work of the day concluded with the discharge of some mortar pieces, for the instruction and amusement of the young Princes, who had never before seen any thing of the kind. This done, a handsome entertainment was provided; after which, *Sir John Ligonier*, who had marched at their head, made the

men a present of twenty guineas; the Prince of WALES gave them twelve; and the Duke of Cumberland returned them his *warmest thanks*."

The Court and national mourning, occasioned by the death of Frederick Prince of Wales, ceased on Sunday the 8th of September, 1751.

The periodical publications mention very little more respecting Prince George, during the present year, except an occasional airing, or visit to his royal Grandfather at St. James's Palace.

The birth-day of the Queen of Denmark, Louisa, the youngest daughter of George II. and the mother of the unfortunate Christian VII. was celebrated at St. James's, on Saturday the 7th of December, when she entered into the twenty-eighth year of her age; and on Friday, the 20th, an express arrived at the same Palace, bringing an account that she was no more. Her death was almost instantaneous, occasioned by too suddenly stooping, and the horrid custom of *tight lacing*, in an advanced state of pregnancy. Thus the King lost two children in one year; and a son-in-law, the Prince of Orange. The Editor has already given a just character of this Princess, in the *Northern Courts*. The King was at first inconsolable for her loss, in which originated the ruin of her son. She was a general favourite in Denmark; and perhaps the King, her husband, never saw a happy hour after her death. They lived in the highest state of conjugal felicity. She was born on the 7th of December, 1724, and died, after submitting to a surgical operation, very similar to what Queen Caroline, her mother, had endured, and which she bore with exemplary resignation. Her eldest daughter, Sophia Magdalena, consort to Gustavus III. is, perhaps, the last surviving grandchild of George II. Queen Louisa was married on the 30th of November, 1743, and left one son and three daughters.

During the present year, the House of Commons involved itself in a very unequal and unprofitable contest, with Alexander Murray, Esq. who was committed to Newgate by the Speaker's warrant, on an alleged breach of privilege. It does not fall within the scope of this work to go deeply into the question; but still it may be permitted to remark, *en passant*, that the voice of the country was strongly expressed against that assembly, not only on account of the extreme rigour with which Mr. Murray had been treated, who was committed to the gaol of Newgate, and debarred the use of *pen*, *ink*, and *paper*; but, much more, because of the general dislike to either of the legislative bodies assuming a power that the Crown durst not exercise; i. e. that of being judges in their own causes, and condemning whom they arrest, without a legal trial. Mr. Murray, even when his life appeared at stake, proudly refused to make the smallest concession to that assembly; whose reputation suffered much more than their power increased. It was very deservedly censured, as an assumption utterly incompatible with pure equity: and although the advocates for such coercive measures affirmed, and perhaps truly, that Mr. Murray was actuated by improper motives, that he was an enemy to the reigning dynasty, and that the *safety* of the establishment required this exercise of privilege; yet, if ever the day should come, that their own practices should be such as to stand in dread of exposure, that a future, and less scrupulous House of Commons, might deem a recapitulation of their own misdeeds, *a breach of privilege*, and commit to Newgate, or, by possibility, *put to death*, the individuals who should step forward in behalf of an insulted, betrayed, and enslaved People—assuredly, said they, the glory of England will be no more. On the prorogation of Parliament, the con-

finement of their prisoner ceased ; and Mr. Murray went forth, not at all improved in his respect for the House, but armed with tenfold powers for its further annoyance.

The year 1751 was crowded with incidents deeply affecting the Royal Family in general, and the late Sovereign of these realms in particular. Agreeably to the provisions of the Act passed for altering the style, this year commenced on the 1st of January. Scarcely an incident, however, worth naming, appears till the anniversary of the Prince of Wales's birth, when he entered upon his fifteenth year.

The following Ode, in honour of the day, was performed at Ranelagh, on Monday, 25th of May, 1752.

Vide Scots' Mag. 1752, p. 228.

RECIT.

Another passing year is flown,
The op'ning bud is fuller blown ;
Ye sons of music, strike the lyre !
Be thankful, *Britons*, and admire !

AIR.

Before him strew each fragrant flow'r,
The gift of lavish May ;
Erect the arch, and deck the bow'r,
'Tis GEORGE's natal day.
Beneath his mighty Grandsire's shade,
Th' illustrious plant expands,
By his fond care more comely made,
More lofty by his hands.

RECIT.

Old Time unlocks, and shuts up springs,
He builds new thrones, and pulls down kings ;
Yet all his ruins we forgive,
Our full amends we now receive.

AIR.

Tho' his scythe has mow'd down all
The mighty lords that rul'd this ball;
Yet this important hour,
All his waste does overpay;
All his rage and wide decay,
Are remember'd now no more.

RECIT.

This lavish day does ev'ry blessing bring,
In greater plenty than an eastern spring:
Britons, begin! your notes of transport raise,
And pour your gratitude in songs of praise.

AIR.

'Tis George's day! Awake to joy!
'Tis George's day! Your songs employ!
Sound the trumpet, beat the drum,
Peace and plenty both are come.
Now no more,
The cannons roar,
Britain happy shall remain,
Britain, mistress of the main!

DUETTO.

Brisk trade shall increase, and fair science appear,
And none but the tyrant and faithless shall fear.

It is a curious fact, in the annals of the times, that the month of September, 1752, contained only *nineteen days*. WEDNESDAY the SECOND was the last of the old style, which had probably existed from the time of the Roman conquest of Britain; and THURSDAY, the *third*, by the new Act, was accounted the *fourteenth*. The Earl of Chesterfield introduced the present bill. The Duke of Newcastle had a *strong aversion* to the disturbing of things which *were at rest*, and sagaciously observed,

*“ he did not like new-fangled things.”** The bill was, notwithstanding, received with great applause, and very ably supported by the Earl of Macclesfield, who then filled the chair that the great Sir ISAAC NEWTON had occupied. The confusion and embarrassment of the anomalous operation of the old and new style, was daily felt by our foreign merchants; yet nothing but the most inveterate prejudice, if not profound ignorance, could have sanctioned any opposition to the alteration.

Prejudice and ignorance remained very generally diffused, even later than this time. In the course of the present year, the names of individuals who had died of INOCULATION, were publicly advertised; and the editors of some of the periodical publications were illiberal enough to animadvert in a way to cherish such brutal ignorance, and wound the feelings of their friends, by dark and groundless insinuations.

At this period, the baleful influence of Lord BUTE's supposed bad political principles, on the education of the late King, and the conduct of the Princess of Wales, was generally dreaded by the friends of constitutional liberty, and severely commented on. The young Prince was wholly neglected by the Royal Family, who shunned his mother's palace, and debarred him of that intercourse with the rising gentlemen of his own age, whose good-will it was so essential he should gain;

* The Duke of Newcastle served, perhaps, as a model to an illiterate farmer, who was violently offended by the road being improved at Stokenchurch Hill; and such was his love of things *being left alone that were at rest*, that he stubbornly refused to use the *new road*, although two horses could draw as much grain to market, as six could on the steep old way. When he was reproached for his stupidity, he used to exclaim, “ This *waai sarv'd* feeather, and granfeethr, and it wool sarv me. I dwoont loik new fashens, not I.” This is a genuine fact, and was related by a contemporary of the clodpole.

and by whose society, his taste, judgment, and manners, might have been so materially improved. Having been reared in those arrogant notions that are endemial to the petty and despotic Courts of Germany, his mother could ill brook the appearance of her son's having *companions*, lest it should shew too much resemblance of *equality*, lead to familiarity, and diminish his influence whenever he ascended the throne. She was an artful woman, and no less ambitious; continually meddling with political matters, intriguing with the discontented of all parties, and secretly despising them all. Her excuse for holding her eldest son restrained from a free intercourse with the most amiable and polished of the youth of Britain, was a dread lest his *morals* should be corrupted. A more plausible plea she could not have adopted; but it was surely dictated by profound hypocrisy. It is too apparent to be denied, that instead of endeavouring to teach the gentle and docile youth to gain the love of his Grandfather and his nearest-blood relations, she was in the habit of speaking disrespectfully, nay even contemptuously, of the King, the Duke of Cumberland, the Princess Amelia, and others of his Father's nearest-blood relations; than which nothing could be more indecorous and impolitic. And if the propensities of the youthful heir to the throne had happened to have taken a vicious bias, this conduct might have operated fatally upon his future character. By these petty cabals, the widowed Princess rendered wider and deeper the breach which excluded her from the King's favour; and in proportion as Lord Bute obtained the ascendancy over her councils, dissensions crept in amongst the governors, preceptors, and tutors of the Heir apparent, who lived in a state of seclusion and retirement, that it might have been difficult to justify, even if his time had been devoted to the assiduous cultivation of the most useful and grace-

ful acquirements. And if such were the results of the prejudices, antipathies, and resentments, of the Princess,—what but ruin could have possibly resulted, if the aged King had died, and she had been installed as Regent, and guardian of the King her son, coupled as she would have been with the Duke his uncle, whom she feared and hated; and with ministers whom she could not remove, yet held them in scorn, and spoke of them with contempt?

Amongst other writers, Mr. Adolphus, in his History of the reign of George III. has laboured very hard to justify the conduct of the Princess Dowager of Wales. Page 5, vol. I. he says, “It was a great object of the Princess’s care, to educate her son in the principles and constant practice of religion; and with this view, *she* invited the learned and pious Dr. Stephen Hales into her family, and appointed him clerk of the closet. Her good intentions were greatly favoured by the disposition of the Prince, who was affectionate, gentle, and exempt from every appearance of vicious inclination. The *dread which the Princess constantly entertained that his MORALS WOULD BE CONTAMINATED by the EXAMPLE OF THE YOUNG NOBILITY, prevented his mixing with them in familiar intercourse, and his acquaintance was almost confined to the SOCIAL CIRCLE of LEICESTER HOUSE, which* (says the partial historian) *was select, cheerful, and UNRESTRAINED.*”—*Unrestrained* indeed was the condemnation of the principles which had seated his great-grandfather on the British throne!

Mr. BELSHAM’s Memoirs, Vol. II. p. 176 and 177, contain many masterly comments on the manner in which preceptors had been obtruded on the young Prince, even *prior* to his father’s death. Mr. Stone, sub-governor to the Prince, who had been placed near his person by the influence of Mr. Murray, afterwards so well known as Lord Chief Justice

Mansfield, was openly charged with being a partisan of the Stuarts, and a promoter of arbitrary doctrines. According to Doddington, he was so personally disagreeable to the Prince, that whenever things went ill in the education of his sons, he used to say to the Princess, "*How could better be expected, when such a JACOBITE as STONE was trusted?*" Mr. CRESET was esteemed as a servile instrument of the Court,—a tale-bearer and tattler:—he was *private Secretary* to the Princess. Mr. SCOTT, was a gentleman and scholar; but he had the misfortune to have been patronized by the great Lord Bolingbroke, and Lord Harcourt, governor to the Prince of Wales, who was no less angry and displeased with him, than with Mr. Stone. In short, so complicated were the clashing intrigues then in operation at Leicester House, that there is no possibility of elucidating their origin and result. The most efficient guide appearing to be the Diary of Mr. Bubb Doddington, the Editor submits to his readers the following interesting Sketches of

*The BRITISH COURT, and the EDUCATION of
GEORGE III. 1752;*

omitting "*she said, I said, and he said,*" and preferring the natural shape of Dialogue: for if the facts stated are truths, this method renders them more forcible; if they are embellished falsehoods, tinged and coloured, as suited the views of the wily journalist, they will read the better for the change.

Scene.—An apartment of the Old Palace at Kew; time, evening 15th of October, 1752; persons present, the Princess of Wales, Mr. Bubb Doddington, Lady Charlotte Edwin, and Lady Howe, all at the farther end of the room: supposing the usual formalities over, the Princess thus spake:

"I wish the PRINCE (George III.) would now and then amuse himself: Princes should never play

deep, both for the example, and because it does not become them to win great sums. The manner in which the Princess **** behaves at Bath, is very improper: she plays publicly, all the evening, and very deep."

Doddington.—"With whom, Madam?"

Princess.—"With the Duke and Duchess of Bedford. It is prodigious, what work she (the Princess ****) makes of it with Lord Chesterfield! When his Lordship is at Court, she will scarcely speak to him; at least, as little as possible to a man of his rank: but now, at Bath, she sent to inquire of his coming before he arrived; and when he came, she sent her compliments of expecting him at all her parties at play; and that he should always sit by her in the public rooms, that he might be sure of a warm place."

Doddington.—"How are these demonstrations with him (Chesterfield and the Bedfords) to be represented to the King?"

Princess.—"I do not understand how: the Duke of Bedford, when he went out of office, treated the Duke of Newcastle very ill to the King, not only as to public, but private matters, with relation to Lord Gower; but some time afterwards, in the summer, the Duke of Bedford relented, and asked an audience, when he unsaid great part of what he had said before, and attributed it to misinformation."

Doddington.—"Is it possible? could he act thus, Madam?"*

Princess.—"I am sure of it. I know it to be true."

Doddington.—"Notwithstanding this, in the winter his Grace (of Bedford) made a formal attack, and a very strong one too, in the House of Lords, against the Saxon subsidy."

* Diary, p. 144, notes.—"I asked her if this could be true."

Princess.—"It is very true, and the King was again very angry: he (the King) told me, that the Duke of Bedford did not know his own mind. I have myself no opinion of his (Bedford's) judgment; but he is governed by Lord Sandwich, of whom I do not entertain any good opinion.* Lord S—— made the Duke resign: they are both very much combined, and (stand) in intimate correspondence with the Duke of Cumberland.† How they manage with the King, I do not know; but I think they do not mean to act to any purpose now;‡ *their* views are upon the minority."

Doddington.—"In this light (Madam) it seems highly imprudent in the Duke of Bedford to resign his office; which office gave him a settled place in the Council of Regency."

Princess.—"It is very true: it was Lord Sandwich's doing. I am satisfied the minority is their point of action."

Doddington.—"It is necessary for your Royal Highness to look about you a little, and to secure friends, in whom you can trust,§ to see that you have justice done unto you in that event, not only from that quarter, but from all other quarters; for Your Royal Highness must have observed, the present government have taken the best care they can to secure themselves."

* "Of whom she did not think very well."—*Diary*, p. 144.

† Duke William, the hero of Culloden.

‡ A curious specimen this, of an administration disregarding their sovereign and master, and shaping their conduct so as to make the best immediate advantage of his decease, and also of the *minority* of his successor.

§ A more complete knave, a dirty intriguer, than Doddington has proved himself by this journal, could not be selected from the annals of the British Court. The spider was weaving his web, to catch the Princess, as he had before caught her husband; but the former appears to have been pretty well a match for the veteran, and able to beat him at his own game, and with his own weapons.—*Editor*.

Princess.—"Yes, good folks! they have not neglected themselves. I will act as you have hinted, not alone for my own sake, but for the sake of my son and of the nation."

Doddington.—"Not knowing what part Your Royal Highness will take in the Regency Bill, I prepared myself to oppose it, but in a very different manner from those who meddled with it. I would have opposed it upon principles that should have made the King weary of the Bill, not as an opposition to His Majesty and the ministers, but as a measure of his ministers to secure their own power, at the expense, and in the diminution, of the power of the Crown; and I believe, with the assistance I was sure of, I could have hung upon the Bill so long, and shewn it in such lights, that at last the King should have been out of humour with it, as I have reason to believe he has since. However, when I found that Your Royal Highness acquiesced, (though I think I should hardly have had prudence to advise the measure,) I was thoroughly convinced it was the most wise and advisable mode that could be taken; and *then* I dropped all shew of opposition, and did not go to the House, that I might not furnish a handle to render me obnoxious: with the same view, in the late transactions between Mr. Pelham and me, I made ten steps to their one; so that, if nothing came of it, they cannot say I am desirous to continue and propagate resentments.—(p. 146.)

"I think the persons now in power are *exceedingly proper* for Your Royal Highness to go on with, in case of a minority; and all that I mean, by mentioning the Regency Bill, is to shew, that as they had taken all *proper* precautions for their own security, it is not unreasonable that Your Royal Highness should keep a look-out, and secure such friends, who, though they act with government, may see that you have your due share in it; for

there is such a thing as being great, and, at the same time, inconsiderable. We may be born the one, but must owe our consequence to ourselves. However, nothing is to be done at present, but to sit still and watch events; as every *thing goes on well, and the King is very kind to the royal children, and very respectful to yourself.*"—(p. 147.)

Princess.—"I have no general objections to the ministry. Indeed, I see but very little of them. What I cannot excuse or forgive, is their not doing something for the Prince's servants. (Doddington was one.) After so long a time, and so many vacancies, taking no notice of any *one* of them, looks as if they have a studied design to keep old prejudices and resentments alive. I am sure they might *assist* them if they would. They might have prevailed upon the King before now, if they had set about it willingly. Can they pretend they could not prevail with him in behalf of persons who must be indifferent to the King, after what they have *made* him do for Pitt?"

Doddington.—"I agree to all that Your Royal Highness says, with relation *to their influence* over His Majesty, where reason is so evidently on their side; and I am the more flattered by this, because it is my own way of thinking, so much that, if nothing should come of what is in agitation between me and them, and they should continue to hold up the King's personal indisposition towards me, I shall impute it wholly to their want of inclination."

Princess.—"Notwithstanding what you say of the King's kindness to the children, and civility to me, *those things do not impose upon me.** There are

* This northern *Syphax* well knew, that the King made no secret of his dislike towards her, and hardly behaved with common civility! The hungry courtier was merely *fishing*; and the Princess took care to let the wily politician know, if she swallowed, she could perceive the *bait*.

other things I cannot get over. I wish the King were *less civil*, and that he would put less of *our* money in his pocket: he gained £30,000 a year by the *poor Prince's death*. If he would but give us the Duchy of Cornwall to pay his (her late husband's) debts, it would be something. Should resentments be carried beyond the grave? Should the innocent suffer? Is it becoming so great a King to leave his son's debts unpaid?—and such *inconsiderable* debts?"

Doddington.—"What does Your Royal Highness suppose may be the amount?"

Princess.—"I have endeavoured to know; as a person can possibly inquire, who, not having it in her power, cannot pretend to pay them. I believe, that to the tradesmen* and servants, they do not amount to £90,000: there is some money owing to the Earl of Scarborough; and there is abroad, a debt of about £70,000. This hurts me excessively, though I do not shew it."

Doddington.—"It is impossible, Madam, to make people anew.† The King cannot now be altered, and it *adds much to the prudence of your conduct, in taking no notice of it.*"‡

Princess.—"I cannot, however, bear it; nor help sometimes giving the King to understand me, in the strongest and most disagreeable light. I have done it more than once, and will tell you how it happened the last time. You know that the Crown has a power of the resumption of Carlton House and Gardens for a certain sum. The King had, not long since, an inclination to see them, and he

* The Prince's upholsterer, or cabinet-maker, to whom a large sum was due, is said to have died insolvent and broken-hearted: his son, after his father's ruin and decease, was taken to a *workhouse*!

† "*I said it was impossible to new-make people.*"—Diary.

‡ The most artful of all modes of exasperating a high-mettled lady.

came to make me a visit there. We walked in the gardens; and he, seemingly mightily pleased with them, commended them much, and told me he was extremely glad I had got so very pretty a place. I replied, it was a pretty place, but that the prettiness of a place was an objection to it, when one was not sure to keep it. The King said, that there was indeed a power of resumption in the Crown for £4000, but surely I could not imagine it would ever be made use of against me. How could such a thought come into my head? I answered, No, it was not that which I was afraid of, but I was afraid there were those who had a better right to it, than either the Crown or I. He said, 'Oh no, no, I do not understand that; that cannot be.' I replied, I did not pretend to understand such things, but I was afraid there were such people. He said, 'Oh, I know nothing of that. I do not understand it.' And immediately turned the discourse."*

Doddington.—"I think Your Royal Highness has done all that can be expected: prudence requires letting this and several other matters sleep. I am convinced, Madam, that the high and just opinion the people have of you makes them wait with patience."

Princess.—"They are very good to me. GEORGE has no other way of thinking, and will certainly act accordingly; but I dare not let any body have the comfort of knowing it, lest they should set every thing in a flame,† such is the delicacy and ticklishness of my situation."

* In this part, the narrator observes, "*I was pleased with the ingenuity of the attack, but could not help smiling at the defence; nor she either, when she told me.*"

† It appears by these expressions, that she had impressed on the mind of the young Prince the moral justice of performing this act of filial respect to his Father's character; and a very honourable trait it forms.

Doddington.—"What is your opinion, Madam, of the real disposition of the Prince?"*

Princess.—"You know him almost as well as I do: he is very honest, but I wish he was a little more forward, and less childish for his age; but I hope his preceptors will improve him."†

Doddington.—"May I presume to ask what methods they take? What do they read to him, or make him read? and whether he shews any particular inclination to any of the people about him?"‡

Princess.—"I really *do not know what* they teach him; but to speak freely, I am afraid not much; they go into the country, and follow their diversions, and not much else that I can discover; we must hope it will be better when we get to town."

Doddington.—"I do not much regard books: what I most wish is, that His Royal Highness should begin to learn the usages and knowledge of the world; be informed of the general frame and nature of the constitution, and of the general course and manner of business, without his descending into minutias."

* Evidently asked for *political* purposes: he seized on the father; next he is seen winding like a speckled snake into the bosom of the mother, and stretching out his spiry length to reach the son.

† When the great Buchanan was tutor to Prince James, son of Mary, and afterwards King of England, that preceptor flogged his royal pupil on the seat of honour. Lady —, one of his attendants, seized the weeping urchin, and asked how he dare lay a rod upon '*the Lord's anointed.*' The sedate and just philosopher calmly justified what he had done; promised a repetition, whenever necessary, and, with the most provoking *sang froid*, said, 'Your Ladyship may heal the wounds *with your kisses.*' About that same period, the child was taken ill with the colic; and when the LADIES-in-waiting ran to his succour, only one of them had a *shift* on!—*Vide Buchan's Essays.*

‡ Doddington probably asked this question, to pay his insidious court to him whom the Prince best liked.

Princess.—"I am of your opinion. Stone tells me, when he talks to the Prince upon these subjects; he seems to give a proper attention, and to make pertinent remarks. Stone is a sensible man, and capable of instructing in things, as well as in books. Lord Harcourt and the Prince agree very well, but I think George cannot learn much from his Lordship. Scott, in my opinion, is a very good preceptor; as for the good bishop () he may be, and I suppose he is, a *mighty* learned man, but he does not seem, in my eyes, very proper to convey knowledge to children; he has not that clearness which I think necessary. I do not observe the Prince takes very particularly to any body about him but to his brother Edward, and I am very glad of it; for *the young people of quality are so ill educated, and so very vicious, that they frighten me.*"*

Doddington.—"I think it a great happiness that he shews no disposition to any great excesses, and entreat you to instruct me as to his affections and passions."

Princess.—"He is a very honest boy,† and his chief passion seems to be for Prince Edward."

Doddington.—"As Your Royal Highness has mentioned the negative which the ministry seem to continue upon the Prince's friends, may I presume to ask about the young Prince's affections towards his father's memory, as he is now bred in a manner, and in hands so totally unacquainted with the late

* This was holding a mirror up to nature. Doddington could not help seeing his own youthful portrait.

† These, and other expressions, look as if the conversation had been carried on in German, and afterwards written down in English, from memory. The German words, literally translated, would be in English, 'a very honest boy,' but not in the spirit; but 'an honourable boy,' as including birth, education, and principle. After all, this is but a mere conjecture. ED.

Prince, and with those who had been about him, that he may very easily be brought to forget them; which I fear, at the first setting out in life, would give a very disadvantageous, if not a dangerous impression, of him. Trifles are of consequence at the first outset (particularly those that relate to the heart) to princes, whose lightest actions engage the attention, and whose elevation exposes them to the continual inspection of mankind: many good things lose their gloss at least by untoward impressions: a great deal of power may be required to do things where affection and confidence were wanted, which a very little might bring about where they were once established by first and favourable impressions: for these reasons, Madam, I should be extremely sorry his Royal Highness should forget those who have been faithfully attached to his father, as that attachment is the only reason that could be given to justify the proscription which they now lie under.”*

Princess.—“ I agree with you, that nothing could be more disadvantageous and hurtful to him: it would affect me very sensibly; but I have no reason to apprehend it, as George seems to have a very tender regard for the memory of his father, which I encourage all I can. When they behave wrong, or idly, as children will do, to any that belonged to their father,† and who are yet about me, I always ask them how they think their father would have liked to see them behave so to any body who belonged to him, and whom he valued? and that they ought to have the more kindness for them, because they had lost their friend and protector,

* This language, and these sentiments, prove how clearly Mr. Doddington understood what was right and good, however perverted were his own morals.

† The changes from the original are very trivial, and probably go nearer than the text to the identical expressions used.

who was their's also; and I found it made a proper impression on them".*

Doddington.—"May I humbly advise, that Your Royal Highness will cultivate and improve the personal influence which your many virtues, as well as natural affection, give you over the Prince, as I am sure, from your influence, and the settled opinion of your prudence, with all mankind, all the disinterested and sensible amongst us, hope for a happy settlement of the new reign:† I do not mean authoritatively, and during a minority, but during the very young part of the King's life, and till time and inclination have brought him thoroughly to weigh and understand what the government of a great country is."‡—(p. 155.)

DIARY RESUMED.

October 15th, 1752,—Continued.

"N. B. I have forgotten something very particular, *viz.* in expressing her dislike to the Princess A—a and the Duke of Cumberland, she said, that though she did not value these things, nor seem to see them, yet she could not but wonder at the very little regard which the Duke was pleased to shew her: that she had been at Kew the whole summer, and he had never vouchsafed to favour her with one visit: that she had been ill for three weeks, not much indeed, but so that the town reports were, that she was dying; his Royal High-

* This conduct was becoming the mother of a future sovereign, and reflects lustre on her memory.

† The King lived *eight years* after this discourse; it is amusing to a reader, if he be not a king, to observe, how quickly ministers take the alarm when their royal master seems likely to die; and many heads are at work, to entrap or adulate his successor.

‡ It is a pity a man of such great, should have displayed so many proofs of *little*, talents.

ness never thought her worth sending after, even once, to know how she did. She continued,—that she was very indifferent to these matters, but she could not help wondering who was at the bottom of it.

“ I came home between ten and eleven, and have been the more particular in this conversation, because it carries an air of friendship and openness, which I no ways expected from a great Lady, who has established a character for prudence, in not opening herself much to any body, and of great caution to whom she opens herself at all.”—(p. 142 and 156.)

Continuing the subject of the King's education, and the public discussions to which it gave rise, an *anonymous memorial* is next presented to the reader, that was probably composed by persons well acquainted with the transactions of Leicester House, and secretly supported by persons of great power in the State. A copy was sent to General HAWLEY, apparently with the design, or in the hope His Royal Highness would lay it before the King. It is a bold and spirited production, and well worth a place in a memoir illustrative of the reign of GEORGE the THIRD; whose grandeur of personal character, and whose unshaken integrity of mind, become the more admirable, when it is seen in what a Babel he was educated :

Copy of a Memorial of several Noblemen and Gentlemen of the first rank and fortune.

The memorialists represent—“ That the education of a Prince of Wales is an object of the utmost importance to the whole nation: that it ought always to be entrusted to Noblemen of the most unblemished honour, and to prelates of the most distinguished virtue, of the most accomplished learning, and of the most unsuspected principles, with regard to Government, both in Church and State :

“ That the misfortunes which the nation formerly suffered, or escaped, under King Charles I. King Charles II. and King James II. were owing to the bad education of those princes, who were early initiated in maxims of arbitrary power:—That for a faction to engross the education of a Prince of Wales to themselves, excluding men of probity and learning, is unwarrantable, dangerous, and illegal:—That to place men about the Prince of Wales, whose principles are suspected, and whose belief in the mysteries of our faith is doubtful, has the most mischievous tendency, and ought justly to alarm the friends of their country and of the Protestant succession:—That for a minister to support low men, who were originally improper for the high trust to which they were advanced, after complaints made of dark suspicions, and unwarrantable methods made use of by such men in their plan of education; and to protect and countenance such men in their insolent and unheard-of behaviour to their superiors, is a foundation for suspecting the worst designs in such ministers, and ought to make all good men apprehensive of the ambition of those ministers:—That it being notorious, that books inculcating the worst maxims of government, and defending the most avowed tyrannies, have been put into the hands of the Prince of Wales, it cannot but affect the memorialists with the most melancholy apprehensions, when they find that the men who had the honesty and the resolution to complain of such astonishing methods of instruction, are driven away from court; and the men who have dared to teach such doctrine are continued in trust and favour:—That the security of this government being built on Whig principles, and alone supported by Whig zeal; that the establishment of the present Royal Family being settled in the timely overthrow of Queen Anne’s last ministry, it cannot but alarm all true Whigs, to hear of schoolmasters, of very contrary principles, being thought of for preceptors; and to see none but the friends and pupils of the late Lord Bolingbroke entrusted with the education of a Prince, whose family that very Lord endeavoured, by his measures, to exclude, and by his writings to expel, from the throne of these kingdoms:—That there being great reason to believe that a noble Lord has accused one of the preceptors of Jacobitism, it is astonishing that no notice has been taken of a complaint of so high a nature: on the contrary, the accused person continues in the same trust, without any inquiry into the grounds of the charge, or any steps taken by the accused to purge himself of a crime of so black a dye:—That no satisfaction being given to the

governor and preceptor, one of whom, though a nobleman of the most unblemished honour, and the other a prelate of the most unbiassed virtue, have been treated in the grossest terms of abuse by a menial servant of the family, it is derogatory to His Majesty's authority, under which they acted, is an affront to the peerage, and an outrage to the dignity of the church:— That whoever advised the refusal of an audience to the bishop of Norwich, who was so justly alarmed at the wrong methods which he saw taken in the education of the Prince of Wales, is an enemy to his country, and can only mean at least to govern by a faction which intends to overthrow the government, and restore the exiled and arbitrary House of Stuart:— That to have a Scotsman, of a most disaffected family, and allied in the nearest manner to the Pretender's first ministers, consulted in the education of the Prince of Wales, and entrusted with the most important secrets of government, must tend to alarm and disgust the friends of the present Royal Family, and to encourage the hopes and attempts of the Jacobites. Lastly, the memorialists cannot help remarking, that the three or four low, dark, suspected persons, are the only men whose station is fixed and permanent; but that all the great offices and officers are so constantly varied and shuffled about, to the disgrace of this country, that the best persons apprehended, there is a settled design in these low and suspected people, to infuse such jealousies, caprices, and fickleness, into the two ministers whose confidence they engross, as may render this government ridiculous and contemptible, and facilitate the revolution which the memorialists think they have but too much reason to fear is meditating.

“ God preserve the KING.”

Doddington's Diary, 441—444.

CHAPTER IX.

Comments on the Whig Memorial.—On the danger and the wickedness of perverting the minds of youthful Princes.—Sketches of the Royal Family; of George III. at fifteen years of age; neither childish nor puerile in his manners.—Duke William.—Princess Amelia.—The Scot's Magazine; the Diary.—Curious and important Dialogue between the Mother of George III. and Dodding-ton.—Duke of Bedford's Motion.—Extracts from the True Briton.—Comments thereon.—A birthday Ode, in honour of the 15th birth-day of the late King.—Popular Prejudices against the Jews.—Singular Advertisement.—The Religion of tipsy Sailors; the Wit of a frightened Jew.—Lord Bolingbroke's Monuments and Inscriptions.—Frequent Change of Masters about the person of the Prince of Wales.—Gross Imposture of ELIZABETH CANNING.

THE preceding document bears, in almost every paragraph, indelible traces of an angry, if not a factious spirit, operating most powerfully on its writer or promoters; yet, after making every allowance for those drawbacks, there still remains abundant matter that evidently called for solemn and dispassionate inquiry. The allegations amounted to a charge of the worst and most dangerous species of TREASON; since nothing is more certain than this moral deduction, that he who should endeavour to instil into the heart of the youthful Heir to a constitutional Crown, a deep-rooted contempt of popular rights, and an early predilection for, and lust after absolute power, was committing a crime of the blackest hue: and if legally convicted of having acted thus, in the diabolical hope

and expectation of forming an ANTI-PATRIOT Monarch, who, by guile or power, should undermine and uproot the liberal institutions which denoted the sovereignty of the nation, he or they merited DEATH more fully than the brave and candid Tory, who openly drew his sword to restore a dynasty to whom he had sworn allegiance.

What could be more humiliating or appalling to the British nation, than to be thus assured that a *deliberate system* had been matured in the palace of their Sovereign, or of his Heir-apparent, to train and educate the Prince of Wales in *Jesuitical principles* of future rule; in principles instructing an incipient despot how to proceed, by sap and mine, where force could not with safety be applied; how to debase the genius of a free nation, by corrupting their delegates or deputies; how to render despotism less odious, and liberty less attractive, till by systematically ennobling the former, and polluting and degrading the latter, the character of the nation should be changed, its love of liberty diminished, and a majority of the rich and great become firmly enlisted under the banners of despotism, and firmly devoted to the extirpation of every relic of British freedom? That such was the *design* of that proud, accomplished, but unprincipled courtier, Lord BUTE, there is more than a sufficiency of proof to demonstrate: yet, enormous as was the guilt of that inveterate foe to human happiness, there were other individuals, who, owing all their consequence to the generosity of the nation, and to its efforts to banish lawless despotism for ever from its soil, having been elevated by its power, and clothed in the robes of royalty by its bounty, were infinitely greater criminals than Lord Bute; because, if guilty, the crime of perfidy and ingratitude was superadded to all their lesser vices. Hence, it is not surprising, when it had been thus proclaimed that the poisonous weed of despotism

was actually planted, and had already taken deep root under the pillars of the throne, that all the thinking and reflecting part of the nation should feel the shock, and spurn with honest pride and fierce disdain the intolerably insulting idea of *their* enduring the re-establishment of despotic power under the Brunswick dynasty; for attempting which, they had cashiered their HEREDITARY KINGS, and, by an act of *severe and unrelenting justice*, had for ever excluded their unoffending heirs.

The *manner* in which the charge of intending to rear the Prince of Wales in unconstitutional politics; of deliberately *intending* to fill his mind with an early belief of the validity of rights divine, hereditary, and irresistible, inherent in British kings, was met, and neutralized, and all investigation denied; affords the strongest demonstration of the TRUTH and JUSTICE of the imputations: and as the same men were allowed to hold their posts in defiance of public opinion, and as George III. was actually educated by persons thus arraigned and thus shielded, a more copious elucidation of this interesting part of his personal history is essentially requisite; the better to compare the elements of regal government thus early inculcated, with his practical conduct after he had become the Sovereign of Great Britain.

The character of George II. has been already delineated by successive characteristical sketches. That he cherished a secret and powerful antipathy to the restraints imposed by the mixed constitution of these realms; that he *interfered with elections*, and sought, by various means, to diminish popular rights, and extend the basis of the regal power; cannot be successfully denied. His daughter-in-law, the Princess Dowager of Wales, had been also reared in one of those nurseries of petty despotism, a German court; and it sensibly grieved

her proud spirit, to see how little respect the English people felt towards those who owed *all their importance* to their high birth and elevated stations. Although not devoid of some good, or even amiable qualities, the Princess was at heart perhaps *a rake*—most certainly a despot: and though no two beings ever hated or despised each other more cordially than George II. and the mother of our late King, yet these extremes met in their mutual enmity to democratical institutions; and both united in shielding from merited punishment, that unblushing foe to human liberty, Lord BUTE, and all the subaltern agents of his despotic school. Both those great personages united their powerful means to defeat inquiry; and to cast all the odium in their power to create, upon the Earl of Harcourt, and the Bishop of Norwich, Doctor HAYTER: and the reader will do right to keep in mind, that *the Diary*, which will be soon put in requisition for facts no where else to be found, was written by a man who was a *secret agent* to the Princess; of course, a *secret enemy* to the peer and the prelate; and as such, perfectly capable, and even likely, to shape the Princess's language to suit his own views, and, by possibility, to attribute to that lady language she never used.

In several parts of *the Diary*, the Prince, during his state of adolescence, is described, apparently *by his own mother*, as a shy, backward, and dull boy: the testimony of persons who had attained to man's estate, when George III. was fifteen years old, who had almost daily opportunities of seeing and hearing him, and whose employments afforded them copious sources of correct information, convey a very different idea, representing the late King, at that period, as a tall, well-grown, promising youth; not remarkable for beauty, or elegance of person, but in whom there was nothing *childish* or puerile, either in his language, looks,

or sentiments, dress or manners; nothing obviously defective in wit or judgment. Towards the young nobility and gentry, he was somewhat reserved and distant; *stately*, as the venerable narrator *called it*; but ever condescending and affable to his tradesmen and menials. He seemed to have imbibed his father's taste, being remarkably fond of rural life, of dogs, horses, and field sports; and, according to the conversation of his young pages, both the Prince of Wales and his brother Edward paid a more ready and cheerful obedience to riding, fencing, dancing, and music masters, than to their academical tutors, right reverend preceptors, or lordly governors. His demeanour towards his mother was marked by profound respect and ardent affection. It was rumoured, that the Princess Dowager flattered the grateful boy in a very insidious manner, entering into all his prejudices, and seeking, by means to which a great-minded woman, or a truly affectionate mother, could never have stooped, for the sake of acquiring present power, or future influence, over her eldest son.

Before these desultory remarks are ended, it is requisite to state, that amongst the number of those who were alarmed, or who affected to be alarmed, at the unconstitutional manner in which George III. when Prince of Wales, was educated, stood his uncle, the Duke of Cumberland, and his aunt, the Princess Amelia; both of whom were almost at open war with the court at Leicester House, and eager to seize, according to *the Diary*, every opportunity to induce the King to remove Prince George altogether from the control of his mother. To have effected that object, they should have informed the aged Monarch, that the Princess was educating him to become a *popular King*, and teaching him to adopt the political principles of his father. That *might* have operated the desired end;

but it was absurd to suppose, the inculcation of *Jesuitical* morals would have had that effect, unless the *restoration* of the exiled family had formed a visible link in the chain of future consequences.

Connected with this important part of these Memoirs, *the Diary* affords the following article, *viz.*

“ Lord Harcourt resigned being governor to the Prince. He offered to do so, unless Mr. STONE, (placed as sub-governor by the ministers,) Mr. SCOTT, tutor in the late Prince’s time (but recommended by Lord Bolingbroke), and Mr. CRESET, (made treasurer by the Princess’s recommendation,) *were removed*. The King desired time to consider of it; but Lord Harcourt continuing in the *same resolution*,* the Archbishop (of Canterbury) and Lord Chancellor were sent to him (Harcourt), to know the particulars of his complaints against these gentlemen. He replied, that the particulars were fit only to be communicated to the King; and, accordingly, he waited on His Majesty, and tendered his resignation. The Bishop of Norwich sent his resignation by the same prelate and lord: his reasons, if he gave any, I should have known of a gentleman, who was going to tell me, had he not been interrupted by company.”—*Vide Diary, 5th December, 1752, p. 164.*

On the 22d, Doddington visited the Duke of Dorset. “ We talked over the affair of the Prince’s family, and agreed there must be a *counter story* of the *court side*, or the resigners would run away with public opinion.” This little entry amounts to an avowal, that a plausible tissue of falsehoods was intended to have been fabricated and imposed by the hirelings of the day, upon the

* By these expressions, it is probable some overture had been made, to induce him to desist from his purpose.

credulity of the public; but the precious morsel, if ever it were composed, was not published: and that the RESIGNERS, as this veteran intriguer then foretold, did run away with *public opinion*, the following extracts, from the periodical press of 1753 will demonstrate, *viz.*

“On the 5th of December, the Earl of Harcourt resigned his employment as governor to the Prince of Wales and Prince Edward; and about the same time, the Bishop of Norwich resigned his place of preceptor to their Royal Highnesses.”

“We hear, that the misunderstandings which gave occasion to the late resignations, were owing to a French piece, lately published abroad, intitled, *The School of Man*, being put into the hands of a certain young gentleman of the highest distinction.”

These paragraphs first appeared in the London Evening Post. The subsequent complimentary lines, addressed to the Earl of Harcourt, and to the Bishop of Norwich, are excerpts from the *Scots' Magazine*, of the same year, p. 594, *viz.*

For the Lord Bishop of NORWICH's Picture.

“Not gentler virtues glow'd in *Cambray's* breast,
Not more his young *Telemachus* was blest;
Till envy, faction, and ambitious rage,
Drove from a guilty court the pious sage.
Back to his flock with transport he withdrew,
And but one sigh, an honest one, he knew!
O! guard my royal pupil, Heav'n, he said:
Let not his youth be, like my age, betray'd!
I would have form'd his footsteps in thy way—
But *vice prevails, and impious men bear sway.*”

For Lord HARCOURT's Picture.

“So Harcourt look'd, the honest and the brave;
Free, tho' a courtier; tho' a lord, no slave!
The frailest sheet can waft such merit down,
More durable than flatt'ring busts of stone.”

It is stated in *the Diary*, that on the 28th of December, Doddington waited on the Princess of Wales, when the following curious dialogue is recorded as having actually taken place, *viz.* (p. 167, &c.)

The Princess (laughing).—" *A-propos!* Mr. Doddington: there have been fine doings in our family! a very fine bustle indeed! I am glad we are rid of them."*

Doddington.—" It has indeed occasioned a great deal of talk."

Princess.—" I am quite weary of hearing it. There is as great an outcry at two people leaving us, as if they were the most considerable men in the nation. They occasioned as much wonder and outcry two years ago, when they came to us, on account of their being too unknown† to come here. I know nothing of the *Jacobitism*, the *arbitrary principles*, the *dangerous notions*, of those who are accused, or of any such being attempted to be instilled into the *children*. I cannot conceive what they mean! The Bishop was teaching them *Logic*, which, I am told, is a very odd study for children of their age, not to say of *their condition*."

Doddington.—" Whatever they meant, Madam, they both must often, before things came to these extremities, have applied to Your Royal Highness, and have laid before you some ostensible reasons, at least, for a ground for their resolution to resign when the King returned."

Princess.—" Never! I knew nothing of their intention till Lord Harcourt had been with the King. The Bishop had several times given me an account of the progress the children made; he

* Lord Harcourt: Bishop of Norwich.

† This, and other idiomatic expressions, indicate that the conversation was carried on in German or French; more probably the former.

behaved in the most *flattering* and *servile* manner in the accounts he gave; often insinuating, that there were those about the Prince who *encouraged* his Royal Highness against him. I told him, as is the truth,* that I was entirely innocent of any such practices myself, and did not know of any one else who could be accused of it; and more particularly, that I could not perceive by the *children*, when they are with me, that any ill offices had been done towards him. The last time the Bishop was with me, he complained more strongly of being disregarded, and begged my protection, shewing the great necessity of a preceptor's being respected and supported. Upon which I told him, I always inculcated in the *children* to shew him great respect, and was very far from endeavouring, or even wishing, that it should be lessened, and this, not for the love of you, my Lord, continued I, but because it is fitting and necessary; for if they are suffered to want respect that is due to one degree, they will proceed to want it to another; till, at last, it would come up to me, and I should then have taught them to disregard me. This was the last conversation I had with the Bishop."

Doddington.—"Can you remember when it happened?"

Princess.—"I think about the end of September, or beginning of October. As to Lord Harcourt, he never took the least notice of me. I have hardly seen him three times the whole summer, though we lived so near together at Kew. When he came for the Prince of Wales, so far from sending in to me, he (Harcourt) would stay in *the hall*; and though pressed to it by the servants, he would not come into the picture room, where we always sat."†

* The sincerity of this may very reasonably be doubted.

† In the printed Diary it closes thus; "where *she* always sat,

Doddington.—"Did his Lordship always fetch the Prince home?"

Princess.—"Yes, at a certain hour."

Doddington.—"I had heard so, Madam, and did indeed a little wonder in myself, that I had never seen Lord Harcourt when I had the honour to play at cards with their Royal Highnesses in private; for as the game could not be up to a moment, I thought it natural his Lordship should let his Royal Highness know that he was below; and I presumed you would, as naturally, send for him up."

Princess.—"To be sure I should! You might well wonder! But so far from that, he never came near me. He has been twice this year in Oxfordshire:* I never knew when he went, nor when he returned."

Doddington.—"I cannot conceive, according to the common form of things, even though his resolution might be taken, how he could avoid waiting on Your Royal Highness, to lay some reasons before you, ere the King came home from Hanover, by way of expostulation or apology."

Princess.—"He never did so; nor any thing like it. The very first time I saw him after his return

when *she* was above, till *she* came to us, or sent for us." Which is unintelligible to the Editor.

* This Lord Harcourt was drowned in a well in his park near Stanton-Harcourt, reaching, as it was supposed, after a little dog that had accidentally fallen in. His general character was respectable; but his demolition of the ancient village church, the demolition of the tombs, and desecration of the church-yard, applying the tablets to pave his farm-yard; the uprooting the whole village, and removing the inhabitants from the cherished objects endeared to them by early remembrance,—produced resentful feelings, that, even yet, are not forgotten nor forgiven by their descendants: his death is commonly imputed to the stings of a troubled mind; and his soul is, rather uncharitably, said by some of them, to have been lost by his *unfeeling pride and impiety*.

from Oxfordshire, was on the night the King came, (18th November,) at the foot of the stairs at St. James's: the next time was the birth-day, (27th,) in the private rooms; he endeavoured to avoid me, but I got between the door and him, took him by *the coat*, and said, *it is very fine!* His Lordship replied, 'Madam, *it is all the manufacture of Spital-fields,*' and so walked off. The Tuesday before, he had been with the King, to represent that *my children* were in the way of imbibing dangerous notions; that he had no authority, and could do no good, unless Stone, Creset, and Scott, were dismissed; that they were Jacobites, &c. and had been bred so, they and their families."

Doddington.—"This charge upon their families and education makes me smile, Madam; for though I have a personal regard for Lord Harcourt, and do stedfastly believe he is as faithful a servant and subject as the present family on the throne has; yet, I am sorry to say, I remember his predecessor following the Oxford Circuit, a *very poor*, but reckoned a *very shrewd lawyer*; which shrewdness in the *poor professor*, as he rose, had justice done it, and was called genius and abilities, as it really was; for he was very able, very skilful, and more eminent by his talents than his post. But, till the last years of his life, he was always esteemed a Jacobite; he even stands impeached on these principles, and, though not proceeded against, he is excepted in several acts of grace. I am sure Lord Harcourt abhors these principles, and would, with cheerfulness, risk every thing for this Royal Family; but I think it strange that people will not allow *conversion* to be as natural and sincere in other families, as was happily experienced in his. I cannot imagine what they meant by this whole transaction, even as to the matter, and still less to the manner."

Princess.—"However it was, the King was very

well pleased with them; (Stone, Creset, Scott, &c.) but I can easily guess what they meant."

Doddington.—"I am quite serious in assuring Your Royal Highness *I cannot* guess."*

Princess.—"One might guess by their falling on Mr. CRESET,† who had no more to do with the Prince's education than myself: they had had a design to get his place for another,—as I think, for Lord Talbot's brother; but as the King took my recommendation, (Creset,) he is now to be brought into the quarrel. These gentlemen (Harcourt and Norwich) are leagued with some *greater people*,‡ whom I need not name to you, to get the Prince to their side, and then, by their behaviour, to throw me off my temper; not doubting, if they could once force me into any indiscreet warmth, to make up so plausible a story to the King, as may compass their design, which is, to carry the Prince into other hands at last, by taking him from the people now about him, and, by degrees, consequently from me. This failing, behold the next step: the Bishop comes to take his leave of me, and, with abundance of *fawning* and *flattery*, thanks me for all *my goodness to him*, and *all the regard* I had been pleased to shew him, when he was in my family, hoping I would believe that he left it like an honest man. I replied, (continued the Princess,) that for the *regard* I had shewn him, or any *services* I had done him, he owed me no obligation; it was no more than his due, and what I should always pay to any body whom the King was pleased to put about *my children* in the same station; and as to his motives for leaving my family, not being acquainted with them, I could say nothing about them. Then came my Lord Harcourt; and he, in

* A palpable *fib*.

† A mere creature of the Princess.

‡ The Duke of Cumberland; and his sister, the Princess Amelia.

a *drier* way than the Bishop, takes *his* leave, by thanking me for the *favours* and *support* he had *received* from me whilst in the family; and, in *return*, I thanked his Lordship for the *constant care* and *attendance* he had bestowed upon my sons!"*

Doddington.—"I was surprised before, at what I have heard in public conversation; but *now* I am astonished."

Princess.—"I think I have some little reason to take it ill that such grievous complaints should be made about my son *George*, without giving me the least previous intimation of them. Lord Harcourt complained strongly to the King of *dangerous* notions and arbitrary principles being instilled into the Prince; and that he (Harcourt) could be of no use, unless the instillers of that doctrine, *STONE*, *CRESET*, and *SCOTT*, were dismissed. Having named no particulars, the King sent the Archbishop and the Chancellor *to command* Lord Harcourt to acquaint them with the particulars: his Lordship's answer was, *that the particulars were fit only to be communicated to the King, and he should wait on His Majesty with them.*† He did so. I have since talked with the King. His Majesty told me that Lord Harcourt had only run over the same topics again, without entering into any particulars at all: the King assured me of this, and I believe he told me the truth."

Doddington.—"I am extremely pleased Your Royal Highness has not been thrown off your temper by this behaviour, considering how offensive it was, how deep it is laid, and who are at the bottom of it. I in particular—and, I believe, *all good men*, place their chief hopes in the Prince's continuing

* Admirable duplicity! reciprocally played off.

† It is very probable Lord Harcourt and the Bishop had most reason to complain of the Princess herself, if opportunity had been afforded them.

in *your* hands, and under *your* directions,—in Your Royal Highness preserving that influence over him which is justly due to you, as well from prudence, as from nature.”

Princess.—“They will not find it easy to throw me off my temper.”

Doddington.—“An anonymous letter has been sent to Doctor NEWTON, a popular preacher of St. George’s, setting forth the dangerous way in which the Prince’s education was left; and, after touching on the Doctor’s popularity, concluded by putting it to him as a duty to take notice of it in the pulpit.”

Princess.—“I have not heard of it, and am at a loss to know its meaning.”

Doddington.—“The only meaning I can give it is, though perhaps with too much refinement, that they have or will write anonymous letters, to the same purpose, to forty or fifty of the London clergy, in hopes that, amongst so many, one hot-headed fellow may be found, who will take fire at it, and endeavour to distinguish himself by trying to raise a flame about it.”

Such is the dialogue, stripped of its load of incumbrances, and of that confusion, which a careful perusal of the printed Diary in some places exhibits, owing to the want of due care in its editor.

Continuing the subject of his conversation with the Princess, the journalist states as follows: (p. 176.)

“But I did not think proper to tell her Royal Highness of another anonymous letter, which was sent to General Hawley on Wednesday the 20th *inst.*” (which, when it was opened, contained the memorial already given in the last chapter,) “which was evidently sent with an intent, no doubt, that he should immediately carry it to the Duke, that his Royal Highness might lay it before the King, and make what first impressions he could. Whether

the General did so, (continues Doddington,) I don't know, but I do not suspect him of so much finesse; but what is certain is, that he sent or carried it to the Secretary of State, who laid it before the King. What was the effect, I can't tell; but I know they were very much *intrigued* to find out whence it came, and who was the author."

"January 9, 1753.—The Bishop of Peterborough made preceptor to the Prince of Wales."—(p. 178.)

A motion was made on the 3rd of March, 1753, in the House of Peers, by the Duke of Bedford, relative to the danger to be feared from the unconstitutional principles which were probably instilled into the mind of the Heir-apparent. A long and warm debate ensued; in the course of which, it was stated, that Lord Harcourt had not enjoyed a proper degree of authority over his royal charge, owing to the powerful influence of persons addicted to Jacobitical principles; nor could he be of the smallest utility, unless Mr. Stone, his sub-preceptor, and others, suspected of cherishing *those principles*, were dismissed. On the other hand, the charges were as vigorously repulsed; and the Earl of Harcourt was directly accused of having neglected his duty, by long intervals of absence; and his Lordship was reproached for having endeavoured to eradicate from the minds of the young Princes, and particularly the Prince of Wales, that respect for their deceased Father's memory which it was his lordship's duty to have cherished and strengthened; and the highest eulogiums were pronounced on the morals, manners, and principles, of the gentlemen whom the popular voice had so unanimously condemned.

In the debate on the noble Duke's motion, for the production of papers and examination of witnesses, it appeared, that Mr. Stone had publicly

drunk the Pretender's health. Mr. MURRAY, Solicitor General, who became afterwards so well known as the Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, and Doctor Johnson, Bishop of Gloucester, supposed creatures of Lord Bute and the Princess Dowager, were each accused of improper conduct, as respected the education of the Heir-apparent. The matter, it seems, had been referred by the King to the Cabinet Ministers; Mr. Stone had been heard in his own defence, as well as the Bishop of Gloucester, and also Mr. Murray: after which, the Cabinet Ministers represented to the King, that the charges were *frivolous*, and wholly unsupported. The King displayed the utmost indifference on the occasion: Lord WALDEGRAVE was nominated to succeed the Earl of Harcourt; and Doctor John Thomas, a favourite divine at Leicester House, who was then Bishop of Peterborough, and afterwards translated to Salisbury, and thence to the rich and envied see of Winchester, succeeded Doctor Hayter, Bishop of Norwich.* The complaint of the Duke of Bedford was grounded on the great importance the proper education of the Heir-apparent was of, as respected the liberties of the People, the tranquillity of the Realm, and the security of the Throne; and the Duke required, that the whole of the evidence on which the Cabinet had come to their discussion, should be laid before the House. To enable the Ministers to defend themselves, the King granted them dispensations from their oaths as Privy Counsellors. At the end of a heavy de-

* It was the intention of the Bishop of Norwich to have procured, for the instruction of his Royal Pupil, such a treatise as would convey clear and comprehensive information on the subject of national commerce; and Dr. Tucker, the learned and celebrated Dean of Gloucester, was requested to prepare such a work: he engaged in it, but, for very judicious reasons, declined the accomplishment of his task.—*Vide Adolphus's George III. vol. i. p. 3.*

bate, only *one* bishop and three peers divided with the Duke of Bedford; but on this, as on too many other occasions, the weight of argument was evidently on one side, and the majority of votes on the other.*

The *True Briton* of 1753, p. 203, contains the following strictures on these important transactions, viz.

"The late calling an eminent *prelate*, and a celebrated *lawyer*, to account, for high, low, or no crimes and misdemeanors, committed twice seven years since, after a general act of grace, and the preferring them to such exalted stations, occasions various reflections in Town, and puts me upon examining the former transactions of my life, as well as into those of a later date; and upon the strictest scrutiny into my own conduct, I think I may very safely say, that if I give no offence in this my public character, I am certainly very innocent in my private conduct, as to offences of this kind.

"Indeed, about half a century ago, soon after I had learned my letters, a very knave of a relation taught me a different alphabet, which I used to lisp, about the beginning of which was A. B. C. *A B*-lessed *C*-hange; D. E. F. *D*-own *E*-very *F*-anatick; G. H. J. *G*-od *H*-elp *J*-emmy; but this being in the reign of his daughter, could not decently be interpreted any disrespect to Her then Majesty: however, as I soon after learned from the then *Tom Burnet*, (the late celebrated judge,) when he was examined before the then Secretary of State for much greater offences of that nature, that it was an affront to a *lawyer* to interrogate him after that manner, who very well knew, that by the *laws* of *England*, no man was obliged to accuse himself.

* The personal respectability of the Right Hon. Henry Pelham, forbids the belief that he *intentionally* erred, and shielded from disgrace persons of whose guilt he felt assured. It is very probable, that the principal object of the inquiry instituted by the Cabinet Ministers, went to ascertain if Mr. Stone yet retained his predilection for the exiled dynasty; and if he were able to prove his *LOYALTY* to the House of Brunswick, his contempt of the doctrines which had led to its elevation was not likely to oppose his present fortune, or future advancement. ED.

“A now *new Bishop*, and a very great Lawyer, have been accused,—that the Bishop, not having the fear of the Gospel, nor the Lawyer any fear of the Law, before their eyes, in the very face of the great congregation of *St. Paul's*, and within sight of the head of poor *Laver*, they, together with divers others at present unknown, and well known, the one of them blessed, and the other, on his bended knee, drank to, and prayed for, King James.

“Now for a *Bishop* to *bless*, and a Lawyer to *pray*, are at present such atrocious crimes, as well deserve the severest *pains* and *penalties*; which were accordingly expected on the matter being laid before the King and Council.

“But, to the great amazement of all *Europe*, and in full proof of the extraordinary *lenity* of this government, in comparison of that of the last age, notwithstanding the prosecution was carried on by a *Peer*, and supported by a *Court* party, the said informations for high crimes and misdemeanors are called by the gentle name of *complaints*, and deemed to be *frivolous*; and so that these culprits, instead of hanging and banishment, are much *more likely*, when they meet with their deserts, the one to be sent to *Lambeth*, and the other, instead of irons, to be *loaded* with the *great seal*.”

The above discussion gave rise to the following Lines, written on a late whimsical plot:

“In sacred Scripture is a story,
Not much to either sex's glory.
To Christ, for punishment was brought,
A woman in adult'ry caught:
But, reader, you the story know,
Or if you don't, you ought to do.
No man was found that durst abuse her,
Conscience forbade them to accuse her.
So when, the other day, was met
The Council of the Cabinet,
To talk of a most horrid plot,
Consisting of the Lord knows what,
And to denounce the sentence due
Against the Lord above knows who,
They sat a pretty decent time,
Talking of this enormous crime,
And then departed, one by one,
For no man dar'd to fling—a STONE.”

The preceding extracts substantially prove, that the old veteran Jacobite, who edited the *True Briton*, considered that the complaints of Lord Harcourt and the Bishop of Norwich were well grounded; that the Prince of Wales, the Heir-apparent of an *elected* dynasty, was trained up, as far as depended upon his mother, Lord Bute, and his tutors, in the same political opinions as had led to the cashiering and dismissal of the *hereditary* line of English kings; and that so far from the education of the Heir-apparent on principles diametrically opposed to those cherished by his father, being disapproved by the reigning Monarch, the editor boldly prophesied, that the *priest* would attain the highest clerical rank, and the *lawyer* find himself placed on the woolsack! Conclusions which prove, that amongst the advocates for absolute monarchy, the attachment is to *despotic sway*, and not to the *despot*. If the *legitimate* heir to James II. had acceded to Queen Anne's imputed overture, and had agreed to reign, if restored, upon the terms specified by the *Old Courtier*, (p. 160,) there is just and reasonable ground for concluding, this inveterate enemy to the freedom and happiness of mankind would have turned his envenomed mind against his former idol. In the case of Gustavus IV. of Sweden, and a certain *overture*, in which, in 1808, the Editor was personally concerned, the choice lay between preserving the *despot* or the *despotism* that reigned in Sweden; and the *despot* was abandoned to his fate, perhaps in the hope that the *despotism* might still survive.

Few and meagre are the incidents recorded in the periodical publications of the day, respecting the late King at this early period of his life; but it may with safety be inferred, that all his kind propensities advanced prosperously amidst the insidious cabals and intrigues by which he was surrounded. The *first* birth-day Ode, made for the

4th of June, was composed by Mr. R. Rolt, of which the following is a copy:

Ode on the 4th of June, being the Birth-day of His Royal Highness GEORGE Prince of WALES.

I.

“ Bring your chaplets, strew your flow’rs,
Strike the tabor, string the lyre;
Let us greet the happy hours,
Let our joy to heav’n aspire.
Come from the ring, and weave the dance,
Sweetly sing the rural lay;
Ye shepherds, haste; ye nymphs, advance;
Come and crown this holiday.
Hark! the drum with solemn sound,
Joins the trumpet’s sprightly note,
While mimic thunder shakes the ground,
Thro’ the cannon’s brazen throat:
And the merry-tun’d bells, in a sweet cheerful peal,
Roll round, O George, thy native day to hail!

II.

“ Grim War pulls off the vizor from his face,
And shrinks before the glorious ray of Peace;
No more Rebellion, with unhallow’d hand,
Drives Rage and Havock o’er a weeping land;
Rude Clamour, base-born Faction, fly the day,
While Truth and Justice spread their righteous sway.
Fair Liberty sits in the vale,
And sees honest labour at work,
Where the strong thresher lifts up the flail,
Or the hay-maker handles his fork.
She hears the hoarse peasant rejoice,
As he turns up the glebe with his plough,
And the milkmaid’s more delicate voice,
As she brings up the pail from the cow.
Around the flow’ry mead and fertile field,
See Plenty all her various tribute yield;
The hop-plantation, and the apple race,
With corn, best gift of heav’n, the prospect grace.
Bacchus, Pomona, Ceres, bless the soil,
And rich abundance crowns the farmer’s toil:
Not more could Amalthea’s horn contain,
Of ripen’d product from the field of pain.

III.

" Lo ! Health climbs up the mountain's brow,
 To see Britannia's wealth below ;
 Where the thick flocks such fleeces bear,
 As shame the ancient Tyrian pride :
 'Tis Jason's wealth ; our navies are
 But one great Argos o'er the tide ;
 Whose womb contains so opulent a store,
 As ev'n to purchase all Potosi's ore.
 Blest Isle ! where freedom happily receives
 That treasure, which destroy'd ten thousand slaves.

IV.

" Ye venerable patriarchs of the wood,
 I long to see you ploughing up the flood,
 All rang'd in terrible array,
 Where glorious Vernon points the way,
 To humble France, to crush the Spanish pride,
 And strew the Bourbon lilies o'er the tide.
 Then shall Britannia, ocean's queen,
 Like her own oak, supremely rise ;
 The world shall then obey her reign,
 Her pow'r extend to polar skies :
 To her the African alone shall bow,
 For her the Indian only toil ;
 All Asia's wealth for her alone shall flow,
 The world shall centre in her isle.
 Blest prospect !—Commerce, rear thy languid head,
 Look up, thy George shall cheer his drooping maid.

V.

" Britain's Ascanius, from thy Grandsire learn,
 How to direct the regal sway ;
 Like him, the victor's laurels nobly earn,
 Or teach rude factions to obey.
 Late be the hour ! but when he seeks the skies,
 How glorious then will all thy virtues rise !
 When Granville's counsels guard the throne,
 To guide the sword, the olive spread :
 What can we fear ? a glorious crown
 Shall circle round thy royal head ;
 Britannia shall regain her lost renown,
 While Peace and Freedom dance in ev'ry shade.

“ So young Augustus sway’d the Roman state,
 So good Mecænas won an empire’s love:
 ’Tis virtue wisely to direct the great;
 ’Tis virtue wisdom’s counsel to approve:
 Peace won by war, more solid glory brings,
 Than all the palms of all the warring kings.

VI.

“ Thy Granville shall behold no Pyrrhus here,
 Nor, like his Cyneas, thy ambition fear.
 Beneath his ever zealous care,
 How great, how glorious shalt thou shine!
 How very terrible in war!
 In peace, how amiably divine!
 Another Harry o’er the field,
 Where Agincourt shall grace thy shield;
 Another Edward o’er the plain,
 Where ev’ry art proclaims thy reign.
 The Muses, enliven’d, shall rear up their head,
 And tune their sweet symphony round the gay mead,
 While Freedom and Plenty shall form their blithe band.
 The Sciences too shall be there;
 Fair Commerce shall bring up each Art in her hand,
 And their festival last thro’ the year:
 While Britain’s blest children shall happily sing,
 ‘ Great George is our Father, our Patron, and King.’ ”

Amongst the proofs of the *prejudices* of the age, the following anomalous sort of advertisement may serve to shew the malignant spirit that prevailed against naturalizing the Jews: * *viz.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

“ MOSES BEN AMRI, Surgeon, at his house near Moor-gate, begs leave to inform the Public, that he CIRCUMCISES, in the safest, easiest, and most expeditious manner.

“ N. B. He will wait on people of QUALITY, at the other end of the town, at their own houses, on proper notice.”

* A Jew pedlar happened just at this period, to go into a public house in the vicinity of Wapping, where some half-tipsy sailors were piously and learnedly expounding the danger there

A more agreeable *memento* of the age exists in the fact, that in the summer of 1753, a monument, designed and executed by that great and deservedly celebrated sculptor, ROUBILLIAC, was erected in Battersea Church, near the remains of Lord Bolingbroke; on which are the following inscriptions:

Here lies
HENRY ST. JOHN;
In the Reign of QUEEN ANNE,
SECRETARY of WAR, SECRETARY of STATE,
And Viscount BOLINGBROKE;
In the days of K. GEORGE I. and K. GEORGE II.
Something MORE and BETTER.
His attachment to Queen ANNE
Exposed him to long and severe PERSECUTION;
He bore it with firmness of mind.
He passed the latter part of his life at home,
The ENEMY of no national party;
The FRIEND of no faction.
Distinguished under the cloud of a proscription,
Which had not been entirely taken off,
By zeal to maintain the LIBERTY,
And to RESTORE the ancient PROSPERITY
Of GREAT BRITAIN.

was of the whole nation becoming Jews, if such laws were to be allowed to exist in the country. To prove their sincere devotion to the religion of their country, they began to abuse the poor Jew; reproached him for having in his veins the blood of those, who, nearly 1800 years antecedently, had hung Christ up to a cross; and they seemed very much inclined either to *hang* or *drown* the poor Israelite, by way of expiation. In this exigency, the poor man begged to be heard in his own defence, before they proceeded to avenge upon him the sins of his ancestors; and he promised, if they would but listen to him, he was quite sure they would not retain their anger against him, or against his nation, one moment longer. Curiosity, or humanity, prevailed, and the Jew spake, like a second *Daniel*, thus; "*Gentlemen, do you not say that the Jews crucified your God? I ask you dat question.*"—"Yes! yes! and be—— to you," vociferated many voices: "*and what of dat?*"—"Why den, my good Christian friends, do you catch the GOD of the Hebrews; hang him, when you've caught him; and let me go about my business now." In an instant

In the same vault
 Are interr'd the remains of
 Mary Clara das Champs de Marsilly,
 Marchioness of Villette, and Viscountess
 BOLINGBROKE.
 Born of a noble family,
 Bred in the Court of Lewis XIV.
 She reflected lustre on the former.
 By the superior accomplishments of her mind,
 She was an ornament to the latter.
 By the amiable dignity and grace of her behaviour,
 She lived
 The honour of her own sex,
 The delight and admiration of ours.
 SHE DIED
 An object of imitation to both,
 With all the firmness that reason,
 With all the resignation that religion,
 CAN INSPIRE.*

In the early part of 1753, the King made his grandsons, the Prince of Wales and Prince Edward, a present of a fine collection of books, and other appropriate articles, fit for their amusement and instruction; but nothing appeared to shew that any

the rage of the sailors was appeased; they burst out in a horse laugh, shook him by the hand, purchased some of his wares, treated him with as much grog as he would drink, and allowed him to go peaceably about his business.

* It is a remarkable feature in the preceding inscriptions, that neither the age, nor time of birth, nor decease of the illustrious pair, is mentioned in their epitaphs. The lady was relict of the Marquis de Villette, (prior to her marriage with Mr. St. John,) and niece to Madame de Maintenon, the beautiful bride of the witty SCARON, and next the wife, although not acknowledged as the Queen, of Louis XIV. According to VOLTAIRE, her fortune "*was scarcely any thing, she had little else besides expectations, and has often told me, she reproached her aunt for doing so little for her family: her uncommon understanding, however, made up for this deficiency; and Madame MAINTENON, in her Letters recently published, styles her the most sensible person amongst her female relations.*"

frequent or familiar intercourse subsisted between the King and the Princess of Wales and her offspring. Some few visits of ceremony were exchanged, but nothing like an amicable intercourse subsisted: and it appeared, that most of the masters appointed during the lifetime of Frederick Prince of Wales, were dismissed by Lord Harcourt; and of those whom that Peer had substituted in their places, some were *displaced* by Lord Waldegrave, who nominated others more agreeable to himself. Such were the constant changes and fluctuations amongst the tutors and masters of the late King, during his education.

Among the various transactions of this eventful period of which we speak, it is at once amusing and melancholy, to perceive the cradle of a Prince encircled with serpents, that he had not the power to strangle. Delighting to breathe its atmosphere, we find the abode of Royalty beset with the tools of contending factions, each intriguing to supplant his rival, and to grasp at power, from any downfall which a successful enterprise might occasion. Like the shadows of a passing cloud, we perceive the names of the renowned, the honourable, and the powerful, move in quick succession before us, and regularly disappear to make room for others, that are waiting with impatience to ascend the political horizon, to live their day, and then to retire from public view, like their predecessors in adventure. And we cannot but acknowledge ourselves to be much indebted to the Diary of Doddington, for a considerable portion of that knowledge which we possess, of the political contentions that existed, and of the various artifices to which the rival competitors resorted, to obtain an ascendancy over the mind of the youthful Prince.

It is well known, that among the celebrated characters of the day, no one acted a more conspicuous part than Lord Bute; who, through a

train of circumstances which appeared accidental, availed himself of a favourable opportunity to acquire that power for which he saw swarms contending, and through the exercise of which he has contrived to immortalize his name, although his conduct has been exposed to the execration of mankind. It was to the following incident that his Lordship stood indebted, for the singular event, which raised him from obscurity, and placed him at the helm of public affairs :

Those who are accustomed to trace the most important events to causes the most trivial, will not be surprised to learn, that the first success of Lord Bute, and, consequently, all the good or evil which his great power occasioned, was owing to the circumstance of an apothecary, in Lime-street, keeping a carriage. His Lordship was living in a very domestic and retired manner at Richmond ; attending only to the education of his children, and not even allowing himself the indulgence of a carriage. Mr. M——, an apothecary, whose country house was near that of Lord Bute, and who kept a chariot, one day invited his Lordship to take a place in it, to go to Moulsey Hurst, where there was to be a great cricket match, under the auspices of Frederick Prince of Wales, father of George III. The offer was accepted ; but they had not been long on the ground before it began to rain. To amuse the Prince during this cessation of the cricket, a rubber of whist was proposed ; but only three persons could be found, of sufficient rank to entitle them to the honour ; at last some one recollected that he had seen a nobleman in Mr. M——'s chariot. Lord Bute was accordingly invited to be of the party, where he so pleased the Prince, (who had never seen him before,) that he invited him to Kew ; an invitation which the Scotch Lord did not hesitate in accepting. From that time Lord Bute became a great favourite of the Prince ; and in

1737, he was appointed one of the Lords of his bedchamber.

In the private memorials of other individuals, there can be no doubt that coincidences, accelerating their advancement to the pinnacle of grandeur and fortune, have happily concurred, not only in the days of Lord Bute, but in all the subsequent periods of our history. Nor can we imagine that these fortunate incidents are the immediate result of any particular mode of government. They seem to arise from the physical constitution of man, in all the variations of social compact; and are ripened into birth in every political soil, that lies between the torpid regions of unmitigated despotism, and the burning zone of democratic fury.

Amongst the *memorabilia* of the year 1753, the case of ELIZABETH CANNING, who pretended she had been robbed by two men in Moorfields, on new-year's eve, and carried by force to the house of a Mrs. Wells, at Enfield Wash, and there confined during a month, and allowed scarcely more than a quartern loaf of bread, and water, and stripped *naked*, to force her to become a prostitute, —occupied the public mind during the greater part of this year. By her evidence, a gipsy-woman, named VIRTUE HALL, was convicted, and received sentence of *death*; and Mrs. Wells was tried as an accessory, and sentenced to be burnt in the hand, and imprisoned six months. But such was the improbability of the girl's story, and so strong the evidence of facts which opposed her testimony, that bills were preferred against Elizabeth Canning; and after two trials, she was convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury. The celebrated FIELDING, the author of TOM JONES, took an active part in this extraordinary case; which, in an eminent degree, tended to prove the radical defects of our

criminal institutions, and the lamentable facility with which the innocent might be condemned to an ignominious death. The *credulity* displayed respecting the marvellous tales told by Miss Canning, and the cruel and illiberal manner in which the Jews were treated, both in and out of Parliament, by those who opposed every concession in favour of that oppressed race of men, form by no means any very favourable symptoms of national intellect; although they afford the strongest possible proofs of the value of education, and the wide diffusion of wholesome knowledge.



W.M. Craig del.

T. Dixon sc.

Afternoon Dress of a Lady and Gentleman at the Commencement of the Reign of George the Third.



W.M. Craig del.

T. Dixon sc.

Afternoon Dress of a Lady and Gentleman at the Close of the Reign of George the Third.

Published by Henry Fisher, Caxton, Liverpool, April, 1880.

CHAPTER X.

Original recollections relative to the youth of George III.—Unjust imputations on the character of the Princess Dowager of Wales.—Domestic Life of the Royal Family.—Vivacity of Prince Edward.—Characteristical Sketches of the late King.—Extracts from ‘the Diary.’—Strictures on the manners and talents of George III. at sixteen years of age.—Disgraceful picture of the British nobility.—Royal Gossiping.—Intrigues.—Curious account of Mr. STONE and the late King.—Sociable Companions.—Singular education of the Heir Apparent.—Increased provision for the Prince of Wales.—Description of a curious pleasure Barge.—Jacobitical wit.—Consistency and decorum of the Prince’s character.—Curious historical extract.—Elevation of Mr. Pitt.—Death of Admiral Byng.—Portraiture of George III. at twenty-one years of age.—Death of George II.—End of the Memoirs of the YOUTH of George III.

THE pages of ‘*the Diary*,’ and also of the periodical press, are remarkably barren of incidents that are worth preserving, connected with the personal history of the late King. The Editor, on this account, took the greater pains to find any persons who might yet exist, that, having served His Majesty before he ascended the throne, might be able to communicate new and interesting matter, or detect the misrepresentations as to personal manners and morals, if such existed, in the accounts that have been published, respecting his days of youth.

The first point he endeavoured to ascertain, was, what opinion those venerable old servants entertained of the nature of the connexion which was so much

talked of and censured, between the Princess Dowager of Wales and the Earl of Bute; since, if it were such as was commonly reported, it would have sanctioned a belief that the Princess had wilfully retarded the education of the Prince of Wales, and held him in obscurity and retirement, to favour the dangerous projects of herself and her paramour. The result of this investigation was, a full and unqualified denial of the truth of these reports, given by three or four different persons, who have not the least intercourse with each other, nor any perceptible motive for denying the truth, although its tendency might have been unfavourable to the reputation of the high parties whose characters stand impeached. These persons, at least two of them, lived in the service of Prince Frederick, and they appear to have been very close observers of the manners, and principles too, of the royal widow and her court. They had heard the foulest abuse uttered, and seen the most indecent caricature representations of Lord Bute and the Princess exposed in shop windows, and on the walls, particularly about Kew, bearing the most infamous inscriptions that any illiterate and vulgar miscreants could scrawl in chalk; yet, one and all of them declare, that they have the fullest conviction in their mind that the charge was groundless and UNJUST; and that it arose from the Princess being, to use the expression of John Lowe, *a handsome young widow*, and Lord BUTE a most unpopular nobleman. Politics ran high: the Princess revered the Earl as an able counsellor and sincere friend; and thence incurred a large share of the public hatred under which Lord Bute laboured. These men affirmed, that the utmost cordiality subsisted between Lord and Lady Bute; that the former, in the presence of the Princess, and at her table, and on all occasions, treated his wife with the utmost

apparent tenderness and respect; whilst the confidential intimacy subsisting between the Princess and Lady Bute, was quite as evident as that which existed between her husband and the Princess. It was *impossible*, they contended, for a female of such exalted rank to carry on an intrigue for any length of time without exposure. The Princess was in the frequent habit of turning off her menials, said they; many complained of her temper, but no one impeached her honour. The Princess entertained a very high respect for the opinions of Lord Bute,—certainly beyond those of any other gentleman; but these men never observed any interchange of those glances which are so difficult to suppress, where a guilty passion is reciprocally cherished. They remarked, that *not one* of the upper servants, belonging to either the Princess's establishment, or to Lord Bute, ever, to their knowledge, either said or insinuated such a charge. Their *reminiscences* are therefore less questionable, and more worthy of credit, than those of that thorough-paced courtier, and inveterate partisan, Horace Walpole.

This *noble* author, as respected the Royal Family, never gave them credit for a good motive, where a bad one could be selected: the plebeians, on the contrary, never adopted the latter in any case where the former might have been applied. *They* strove to eradicate prejudices,—*he*, to imprint them indelibly in the mind of posterity: *they* never received either riches or honours from the House of Brunswick; *he* stood indebted for *all his importance* to their bounty. But still, they did not lavish unmerited and indiscriminate praise. They acknowledged that the Princess was liable to reproach, on the score of a want of candour and sincerity; which blemish they imputed to the delicacy of her situation, and the necessity of foiling her enemies at their own weapons. They admitted

that the Princess stood accused of duplicity; of having secretly *stigmatized* the Bishop of NORWICH, and encouraged her servants, and more particularly a *German valet*, and her secretary, Mr. CRESET, to traduce and insult that prelate, whose dismissal was openly predicted, many months previous to his resignation. According to the testimony of those elders, the Bishop was distinguished by the amenity of his manners, and deservedly respected. Their account of the Earl of Harcourt was less favourable. Him they described as having lost the good opinion of the most respectable part of the household servants, by the unbecoming freedom in which he indulged touching the character of the deceased Prince, whom he was accused of having traduced, in the presence and hearing of his fatherless children. His Lordship was considered as having been *paid in his own coin*, and fully meriting all the indignity he suffered in the family of the King's father. At the same time that affection towards the memory of a kind and liberal master led them to rejoice at the humiliation of his calumniator, they pointedly reprobated the conduct of the Princess, in allowing certain of her favourites to insult, as far as they durst presume, the governor of the Prince of Wales, the grandson of the reigning Monarch, and Heir to his crown.

Nothing could be more firm and consistent than the testimony of those men, as regarded the person, manners, and temper of the late King, at this interesting period of his life. It is well known how frequently, during the meridian and the noon of his long life, he used to indulge, during familiar conversations, in that demonstration of mirthful feeling, which is vulgarly called '*a horse-laugh*.' These old men declared, that in his youth, and until some years after his marriage, he had no such habit. They say he was cheerful, and occasionally playful, but not boisterous, nor full of wanton

pranks, like his brother Edward; that he often seemed thoughtful, and sometimes melancholy, seeking solitudes in his little excursions, and frequently checking the almost ungovernable levity of his brothers.

The senior of these venerable narrators has no recollection of that singular rencontre with a rude and vulgar boy, imputed to the late King by JOHN LOWE; "But, (said he,) *it is all the world like the wild frolics of his father,*" and therefore not improbable. They retain no recollection of the celebrated Mr. *Bubb Doddington*. When the Editor read to the senior person that journalist's description of the *fierceness*, mixed up with grief, in the behaviour of the Princess, he said, "She was *fierce* enough, occasionally, and bore the character of striking her servants, male or female, by whom she was offended."—When asked if the late King lay under similar imputations? his reply was, "*He strike a servant! Oh never! He was too much of a gentleman! I knew him, God rest his soul! almost from his cradle, and he was always the poor man's friend.*"—Was his manner such as to evince a want of becoming spirit or penetration? Did he allow himself to be imposed upon, his commands neglected, his authority slighted? "Not he, indeed! He was not over fond of finding fault; but whenever a servant misbehaved grossly, which very rarely happened, the Prince had them dismissed; and when once discharged, there was no returning. I remember, (continued he,) a Yorkshire lad, named George Millar, an under groom, offending the Prince by flogging his favourite hunter unmercifully. The Prince, though he saw the act just as it was over, did not speak to the lad, but ordered his equerry to call all the stable boys together; and after severely reprimanding Millar, by the express order of his master, he was discharged. The poor lad took on terribly, for he was very fond of the Prince.

Waiting for him the next morning, when he went to look at his horses, he threw himself on his knees, and humbly besought His Royal Highness's forgiveness. The Prince, in a gentle manner, took him by the arm, and made him rise. 'I forgive you, and will recommend you to another master, in consequence of your past good conduct, and in the hope you will never act so any more; but I dare not take you again myself, on account of the bad example I should set.' The poor fellow fairly bellowed, but all would not do: his young master was partial to him: Millar was sent over to his aunt, the Princess of Orange. This fact (continued the interesting old man) may convince you, that the King, when a youth, was not wanting in good sense, a manly spirit, or upright principles. I always thought he had more solid sense than his brother Edward, and more good-nature too, though the youngster had more sprightliness, and spoke three words to George's one.

"I well remember Prince Edward having been forbidden to enter his mother's *doors*, on account of some mischievous trick he had played; and the grooms of the chambers, and pages, had positive orders not to admit him. Whilst Edward lay under this interdict, some of the great nobles dined with the Princess. The Prince of Wales interceded very hard to have him restored to favour, and, if not permitted to dine at her table, that he might enter with the dessert; but all was in vain. The Prince, hurt by his mother's refusal, was very glum all the dinner-time: when they withdrew to the music-room, lo and behold, there sat master Edward, full dressed, who rose and made a very low reverence as his mother and her visitors entered. 'Hey-day, Sir! who has dared to disobey my command, and permitted you to enter these doors?' said she, looking very sternly towards the attendants. 'Don't be angry; nobody has disobeyed you, my dear

mother, (said he :) I have not been admitted within these doors ; I have not *disobeyed* your orders ; for *I came in through the middle window, by the aid of the lamp-lighter's ladder ; so I hope you will give me permission to remain !*' The Prince looked at his mother in a way that spoke more powerfully than words ; the frolic was laughed at, Prince Edward pardoned, and no one seemed half so well pleased as his brother George, who was always ready, but not always able, to help Edward out of the numerous scrapes into which he was continually falling."—You relate these anecdotes as real and substantial truths, and have no reason to doubt their reality?—"None in the world. We used to talk 'em over in the gardens, and laugh heartily at the *monkey tricks*, as we used to call 'em, of Prince Edward."—You have shewn a marked power of discriminating characters : whose did you admire the most, the Prince of Wales, or Prince Edward?—"I was fondest of the former, because I thought he was the best-hearted young man ; although Edward was the most generous, that is, he scattered his money more freely."

How did the character of the late King stand, at the age of sixteen or seventeen, as regarded love affairs?—"There was little or nothing said about him on that head till he was in his eighteenth year ; but against Edward there were continual complaints. After he was fifteen, he stopped giving money to the gardeners and work people as usual ; and then it was said, he bestowed his pocket money on girls ; he was for ever scaling walls, and getting down areas, and was locked six hours in the dairy at Kew, by a girl whom he plagued sadly, and who promised she would come to him at dusk ; instead of which she locked the youth in, who had no means of escape ; and there he was forced to remain till his mother came home. During this restraint, the young gentleman amused himself with

disarranging the economy of the dairy, under the pretext of endeavouring to make butter and cheese. When the Princess was informed of this transaction, she was very highly offended; the girl was immediately discharged, and the Prince severely reprimanded. But he displayed no sense of shame or sorrow, telling his mother he was fond of *rural studies*, and had gone to the dairy merely to learn how to churn."

According to your delineation of character, which is corroborated in other quarters, Prince George was much steadier than his brother Edward. Will you be so kind as to say candidly, if there were no perceptible deficiency in the mental capacity or manners of the late King, how can the conduct of his mother be accounted for, in calling the boys *children*, till they were almost men, and describing the late King as a shy and backward boy, *childish* in his behaviour and habits, embarrassed in his manners, and dull at his book?—"I can't tell, sir, (said he) but *that* it is not true." "It was reported, and very generally believed, amongst the upper servants, and in the gardens (continued he), that the Princess did all she could to *retard* the progress of Prince George's learning, setting him against his preceptors, as I have previously stated, to strengthen her control over him; and the same motive was assigned for her keeping him so greatly secluded, and making, or endeavouring to make him, wear a black riband round his neck, and dress like a boy. The under housekeeper at Kew told me, about seven years before the old King (George II.) died, that the Princess said to Prince George, in her hearing, 'Why are you so anxious to wear a cravat, George; that will not make you a man a day the sooner.'—"Very true, Madam (said he), nor will the paltry riband always make me think *myself a boy*, whatever it may do other people.' The next day he refused to wear it; and his

mother, when she perceived he was determined, was too good a judge of his disposition to persevere."

Then, perhaps, you think the King was stubborn in his temper, if irritated; sullen in his manner, and unforgiving?—"He was not capricious, sir, nor full of megrims, but generally rational, and I believe, to my soul, always just, to the very best of his power; and when he knew he was in the right, he could not be blamed for being firm. I don't consider it was stubbornness: he was calm and sedate; when out of temper, he had a habit of hanging his under lip, and *looking glumpy*; but I don't think he bore malice; although he might long continue to remember an offence, he never forgot a favour: depend on it, sir, he was a fine youth, quite the gentleman in his carriage; but I often thought he had something heavy on his mind: the *squabbles* in the family distressed him; the coarse manner of the old King, in speaking of his father, hurt him very much; he was very partial to his uncle Duke William, whom his mother could not endure: he was too good a son to find fault with the Princess Dowager; but I firmly believe he was greatly agitated at times, and distressed in mind, on her account."

You have given so decided an opinion against the criminal intercourse imputed to the Earl of Bute and the Princess Dowager of Wales, it is not likely the Prince could have been unhappy in the belief that his mother was incontinent and degraded: do you think it arose from any secret dread, lest the Duke of Cumberland, his uncle, or Lord Bute and his mother, would attempt to throw any obstacles in the way of his rights as Heir to the Crown, in case the aged King had died before he was eighteen?—"I can't pretend to give any opinion on these points; they are above my capacity: but this I know, that the young man seemed

to enjoy himself so thoroughly in his field sports, in his healthful and innocent recreations in the country, his gardening, and music parties, that I really think he did not care how long his Grandfather lived. He was out hunting on the morning when the old King died: several horsemen started to find the new King, and announce his accession to the Throne. "Is it certain," said the Prince to the first who arrived, "that my honoured old Grandfather is DEAD? Perhaps he has only fallen down in a fit."—"King George the Second is certainly dead, and you are now King George the Third; and God bless and long preserve your Majesty," said the messenger, offering to kneel. This the young Monarch would not permit. Putting his hand in his pocket, he gave the man money; it was twelve guineas and a half. "*Take this, (said he) messenger, it is all the money I have: if I am indeed your King, the last happy day of my life has passed.*"—"You may rely upon this being truth, sir. And surely it does not show as if he were very impatient to reign?"

Such were the *reminiscences* of a man, whom Providence has blessed with a sound mind, lodged in a sound body, who appears to have no long-cherished resentments to gratify, nor any cognizable motive for flattery. By his account, at this youthful period of his life, George III. possessed the same dignified simplicity of manners which he preserved throughout his life; and manifested thus early, a degree of liberal good sense and consistent behaviour, beyond what could reasonably have been expected at his early age, and in his elevated station.

When questioned as to the high degree of profligacy which the Princess Dowager is stated, in '*the Diary*,' to have assigned as a leading cause of her prohibiting the Heir-apparent to the Crown from any active or extensive intercourse with youths of his own age, however high their rank, he shook his

head, and said, he had no personal knowledge of any good foundation for such assertions. "I rather think (said he) it arose from haughtiness of mind. The Princess was very proud (he continued), and she endeavoured to render her sons proud also; but she totally failed with the late King. Prince Edward was much more haughty and fiery."

Speaking of the religious sentiments of George III. the venerable narrator stated, that he seemed *naturally religious*; was always regular in his attendance whenever prayers were read: whilst Prince Edward had endless excuses to offer, on account of absence; made game at the chaplains; calling his brother George *an old woman* for paying them any respect: he did not think there was any secret policy in this demeanour of Prince George; he could not believe it arose from any *Jesuitical*, or other instruction, in arbitrary principles of government; but arose wholly and exclusively from innate modesty and worth.—Thus warm and sincere were the eulogiums paid to the memory of George III. by men whose testimony could not, by possibility, be tainted by any sordid motive; in the utterance of which, their eyes, features, and voice, all combined to give the stamp of sincerity to their natural and graceful flow of unstudied eloquence. However humble the individuals, or trivial the incidents, the Editor feels a higher gratification in having it in his power thus to snatch from the sweeping tide of oblivion, elucidations so indisputably authentic, and unequivocally honourable to the venerable narrators, and the venerated dead, than he should if all the remaining stores of the *unpublished Doddingtonian MSS.* were spread before him for perusal and selection.

Alluding to the discontents which existed in Ireland, but evidently with the design to bring the Princess Dowager of Wales to converse on domestic matters, Mr. Doddington, near the close of the

year 1753, expressed his concern, that *on the prospect of a NEW REIGN*, the aspect of affairs was so gloomy. “She replied, (continued the Journalist), with a visible alteration in her countenance, uniting a mixture of *fierceness* and *grief* that I had never seen before, “*It is true, and we have other very disagreeable prospects:*” and then, very suddenly she recovered her placidness of feature and voice. Doddington was not able to fish out of the Princess, to whom or to what, her sudden emotion was owing. In the incongruous assemblage of names inserted in the Regency Bill, as guardians of the Throne, amongst others very unwelcome, the most decisively so to the Princess, was that of William, Duke of Cumberland: and Doddington, being unable to fathom her meaning, *supposed* it was her deep-rooted enmity to that Prince, and her apprehensions of being greatly controlled by his influence, in case of the King’s demise, which had caused the sudden flash of angry passions which she had displayed. The author, in the following sentence, states, that the Princess explained *the Prince’s feelings on the subjection he was under*: but the reader is left to guess at the *nature* of the yoke of which the weight was so oppressively felt.

On the 29th of May, 1754, the Princess Dowager received Mr. Doddington at Kew, where he attended by her special command. On this occasion, as on the preceding, that lady appears to have communicated many particulars relative to her sons, and more particularly to the Prince of Wales; none of which, if they were recorded in the journal, have been given to the public. The Princess again expressed *her wish* that the Prince of Wales ‘*saw more company*,’ to which the constant drawback was appended, so often repeated—‘*but whom of the young people are fit?*’ “She durst not, (she said) recommend, for fear of offence, whilst

he had governors, &c. In a year or two, *he will have a will of his own, and then I hope he will act accordingly.*" On this interview, the private property belonging to George II. was estimated at *four millions* by the Princess, at *twelve* by Dodington, who affirmed, that the possession of that enormous sum could be proved within *less* than a fourth part. The Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward, dined with the Princess this day, and no notice was taken of them or their conversation. But if the busy and restless intriguer paid little attention to the Prince, it by no means follows that the Prince did not take a very accurate notice of those proceedings, and feel strongly disgusted by the mingled proofs of perfidy, meanness, and impudence, which floated around him, in the midst of which his morals seem to have remained pure and unsullied. His manners grew perceptibly more and more manly, but wholly free from arrogance.

In addressing his attendants, he was particularly courteous; and the more humble their rank, the greater was the indulgence he extended to their failings or deficiencies. In his bodily exercises, riding and fencing were favourite amusements. He was very tall at sixteen, becomingly gay in his attire, but not foppishly so; his next greatest improvement was in the study of music; and when his sisters or mother could prevail upon him to read from the works of Shakspeare, Milton, or any of our great poets, he was much admired. Like his godfather, the reigning King of Sweden, he was addicted to mechanical pursuits; was well grounded in mathematical principles, and laid out considerable sums in instruments. Of those abstract studies, astronomy held the first rank. The chief cause of uneasiness he gave his mother at this period, was his fondness for spirited horses. Owing to a visible inclination of his knees, he did not appear to equal advantage on foot, as on a

horse. It was but seldom he appeared in public; but when he did, he was hailed with rapturous applause, and sometimes forced to hear expressions, which, by reflecting on his nearest-blood relations, gave him sensible pain. He was addicted to early hours; and in his meals it was remarked, that he ate of the plainest dishes, whilst the young voluptuary, his brother Edward, was frequently checked and restrained from that indulgence of his appetite to which he was inclined. The reports were favourable as to the studies of the Prince, the dead languages alone excepted; nor could all the efforts of his tutors, as respected the Greek and Roman classics, inspire him with any ambition to excel. He was kind and affectionate to all his brothers and sisters, but the last child, CAROLINE-MATILDA, was his *pet*. She was uncommonly beautiful, and no less fascinating in her temper and disposition. He often used to play with her, with as much ardour as a child, for which his mother would sometimes reproach him; and the little creature grew so fond of him, that she was never so happy as in the company of '*father George*,' as she fondly called her eldest brother. Thus kind, gentle, and innocent, were the temper, manners, and amusements, of the late King in his sixteenth year; not brilliant by genius, nor distinguished by elegant attainments, but amiable and respectable, affording the fairest promise of that fine model of a PERFECT ENGLISH GENTLEMAN, which his maturity of manhood exhibited, and all the world admired and revered.

The conversations recorded by the author of '*the Diary*,' as having occurred between George Bubb Doddington and the mother of George III. furnish abundant proof that his education was injudiciously conducted; whilst the whining lamentations of that ambitious and intriguing Princess, touching the *difficulty* of finding, among the English nobility and

gentry, any young persons *fit* to be admitted to the rank of companions to her sons, throws the strongest of doubts upon her motive and objects. If any credit is to be given to the journalist, the aged King had already lived—*too long!*

On the 27th of May, 1755, she is represented as having addressed Mr. Doddington in the following words: viz. “*I am very sensible how necessary it is that the Prince should keep company with MEN. I know very well that WOMEN cannot inform him; but if it were absolutely in my power, to whom can I address him? What company can I wish him to keep? what friendships desire he should contract? Such is the UNIVERSAL PROFLIGACY, SUCH THE CHARACTER AND CONDUCT, OF YOUNG PEOPLE OF DISTINCTION, THAT I AM REALLY AFRAID TO HAVE THEM NEAR MY CHILDREN!!! I should even be in more pain for my DAUGHTERS than for my SONS, if they were private persons; for the behaviour of the WOMEN is INDECENT, low, and much against their own interest, by MAKING themselves SO VERY CHEAP.*” This, (says the journalist,) *with no VERY HIGH opinion of the KING, took up above TWO HOURS.*—Vide Diary, p. 290.

The celebrated DE FOE wrote many ill-natured things, reflecting on the profligacy of morals, and the base origin, of the English *nobility*; but this is the *first* instance on record of the FIRST FEMALE in the state stigmatizing the highest and the noblest youth of the English nation of both sexes, as being so radically corrupted and depraved in their habits, manners, and principles, as to compel her to exclude the whole of them from her society, lest their atrocious propensities should contaminate her sons and her daughters!

If the picture is just, and if the late King wholly escaped the licentiousness by which he was in early life thus surrounded, it must be imputed to the strength of innate purity dwelling in his own

bosom, and which enabled him to see and to avoid those shoals and quicksands, on which a weak and vicious-minded prince must have been inevitably overwhelmed, and his prospects in life all blasted.

The conversation wherein the Princess Dowager is made to utter those offensive expressions, appears to have continued several hours, during which she expatiated on the influence of Mr. Murray, afterwards Lord Mansfield, and Mr. Stone; and insinuated that they were very '*bad politicians*,' who abused the powerful influence they possessed, "except, (said she,) they are *at the bottom the Jacobites* they are represented; and to ruin the reigning family, *give their advice to carry on the consuming system*."—Doddington, commending the *figure* of the Prince of Wales, said, "He is taller than the King."—"Yes, (said the Princess,) he is taller than his uncle," (Duke William.)—"In height* it may be so, (said Doddington,) but if they measure *round* him, the Duke has the advantage."—"That is true, (rejoined the Lady,) but I hope it is the *only* advantage he will ever have of George!" These little traits shew what a fearful mass of envy and prejudice there lay lurking in her mind; and how improper it was that the Heir apparent to the throne should have been left so wholly to her guidance and control. Part of these dialogues seem to imply, that Doddington and the Princess, considering the great age of the King, and his unfitness for the due discharge of the important functions of monarchy, were secretly debating on the means of bringing about a permanent regency; to which the Duke of Cumberland appears to have opposed the greatest

* This passage of 'the Diary,' as well as others which have been noticed, indicate that these conversations were carried on in German or French; more probably the former. The Princess must have said, "*The Prince measures more than his uncle*," for Doddington's satirical reply to have been applicable.

obstacle, for it was not possible to exclude him, nor was there any hope that his views, as to men or measures, could be brought to coincide with the wishes of his sister-in-law. Doddington, in his hollow canting manner, says, "*all was going one way,—a sad prospect for those who wish well to the Prince*; the poor Princess is very uneasy about it." It is astonishing, that with a King in the seventy-third year of his age, and a blooming Heir apparent in his *eighteenth* year, the latter should have possessed so little influence in the state, and been held in a state of obscure retirement, almost as absolute as if he had stood as remote from the succession to the throne as his little sister CAROLINE MATILDA.

In June, 1755, soon after the partial celebration of the Prince's birth-day, the Duke of Newcastle waited upon the Princess, and proposed taking the Prince of Wales with him to Portsmouth, where there was about to be a grand naval review; which, *appearing* to approve, she referred the Duke to Prince George, who agreed, and perhaps very joyfully, to the proposal. On the Monday following, Lord Waldegrave sent word he would wait on the Duke to settle the journey the following day; but, under the *pretext* (for it could be nothing better) that it might *give umbrage to the King*, this opportunity of shewing the Heir apparent, to the British seamen was lost. Her policy might have been governed by a wish to prevent the Duke of Cumberland acquiring his confidence during the little tour, and her disdain of the Duke of Newcastle, and aversion to his presence, might also have had its influence: but the great and ruling principle of action was to keep the royal youth tied as it were to her apron-string, and hinder, if possible, his acquiring that independence of mind, or forming those connexions, which were likely to dissolve her authority, and spoil the web she had been so

artfully weaving, to share the regal power with her son, since the premature death of his father had cut off the possibility of her ever becoming Queen.

On the 6th of August, 1755, almost before the young Prince had left the nursery, it seems as if a project had been formed for marrying him to a cousin of his, a Princess of the House of Brunswick. "The King (said the Princess Dowager) has sent to invite the two Princesses to come to Hanover; they came, but their mother, sister to the King of Prussia, who was not invited, came with them. Surely he will not marry my son, without acquainting me with it, so much as by letter?"—"Certainly not, (replied the insidious news-carrier,) as he has always behaved *very politely** to you."—"It may be so, (she replied,) but how can this be reconciled?"—"In this manner, (said Doddington :) nothing will be settled at Hanover; but when the King comes back, he may say in conversation, commending the *Prince's figure*, that he (the King) wishes to see him settled before he dies; and that he has seen such and such young princesses, and though he would settle nothing without your participation, yet he could wish to see the Prince settled before his death; and therefore, if you had no objection, he should think one of those princesses a very suitable party." The Princess, after a pause, exclaimed, "No, he is not that sort of a man: but if he should settle the match without acquainting me with it, I shall not fail to tell him, fairly and plainly, that it is full early, and that I have eight other children to be provided for; that I hope he will think of doing for them, and not leave my eldest son eight young children to take care of, before he has one of his

* According to Horace Walpole, he applied the most coarse and vulgar of *Billingsgate epithets* to this Princess, even in his common conversation. So much for his *politeness*!

own : it is probable the Prince may have as many, when mine could not expect much provision. In this manner (continued she) I am determined to behave whenever the King speaks to me about it. I think the match premature: the Prince ought to *mix with the world*; this marriage will prevent it: he is shy and backward; this match will shut him up for ever, with two or three friends of his own, and as many of mine. He is much averse to it himself. I dislike the match extremely. The young woman is said to be handsome, and has all good qualities, and abundance of wit, &c.; but if she takes after her mother, she will never do here. The Duke of Brunswick, indeed, her father, is a very worthy man.”—“Pray, Madam, (said Doddington,) *what is her mother*, as I know nothing about her?”—“Why, (said the Princess, unconsciously drawing her own likeness,) *her mother is the most intriguing, meddling, and also the most sarcastical person in the world*, and will always make mischief wherever she comes. Such a character will not do with GEORGE; it would not only hurt him in his public, but make him uneasy in his private situation: he is not a wild, dissipated *boy*, but good-natured and cheerful, with a serious cast upon the whole: THOSE ABOUT HIM KNOW HIM NO MORE THAN IF THEY HAD NEVER SEEN HIM. He is not quick, but, with those he is acquainted, applicable and intelligent. *His education has given me much pain: of his book-learning I am no judge, although I suppose it has been small, or useless; but I hope* he may have been instructed in the general understanding of things. I do not know Lord WALDEGRAVE; and as to Mr. STONE, if I were to live forty years in the house with him, I should never be better acquainted with him than I am. I once desired him to inform the Prince about the constitution; *but he declined it*, lest he should give offence to the Bishop of Norwich. I mentioned it

again, and he still declined, as not being *his province*.”—“Pray, Madam, (said Doddington,) *what is his province?*”—“I do not know, (replied the Princess,) *except it be to go before the Prince up stairs, to walk with him sometimes, seldom to ride with him, and now and then to dine with him! But when they walk together, the Prince generally takes that time to think of his own affairs, and to say nothing.*”—At the close of this witty and entertaining discourse with the Princess of Wales, Doddington adds, “*I had afterwards much talk with the PRINCE about funding, and other serious matters, who seemed to hear with attention and satisfaction.*”

Just about this period, after having, in his conversations with the Princess Dowager, loaded the Duke of Newcastle with the most opprobrious of degrading epithets, Mr. Doddington once more entered into a coalition with him, and probably gratified his ducal patron, whose intellects were of the meanest order, by regaling him—not merely with all the bitter things the Princess of Wales had ever said of his Grace, but, in the exuberance of his lovingkindness, superadding all that his own malicious heart could invent, or his false tongue had uttered. In consequence of which tergiversation, when next the general deceiver presented himself at the court of the Princess, he was received with the cool contempt he had merited.

From this period, Mr. Doddington lost the countenance of the Princess Dowager, as his Diary proves, for the next entry respecting the late King runs thus: “2d June: I heard that a message had been sent to the Prince from the King, offering him an allowance of *forty thousand pounds* per annum, and an apartment in the palaces of St. James’s and Kensington.” To which historical facts the subtle and insidious courtier gratuitously added, “The answer was full of gratitude for the allowance, but

declining the apartment, on account of the *mortification* it would be to his mother; though it is well known that he does not live with her, either in town or country." Such is the last mention made in this singular Journal, of George III. prior to his ascending the throne, and certainly it casts obliquely the reproach of duplicity and avarice; but when the *character* of the writer is considered, that of the Prince cannot suffer much, by his insinuations; and the less so, since, in the appendix, p. 454, it appears that the Duke of Richmond, in 1783, gave a direct contradiction to the statements which had been published respecting him in the first edition of the Journal: from which facts, and the notorious perfidy, meanness, and vanity of Mr. Bubb Doddington, the imputations he has thrown upon the Earl of Harcourt, as having calumniated the memory of Frederick Prince of Wales to his children, and even impelled the eldest son to *insult* his mother, have been rejected, as being incompatible with the dispositions and manners of the parties, and more particularly and emphatically as respected the mild and gentle boy.

The periodical publications of 1754, prove that such great improvements had been introduced into our cotton manufactures, as to form a *new æra* in the annals of internal economy. Mr. SEDGWICK, an eminent manufacturer of printed cottons, presented a piece of '*English Chintz*' to the Princess Dowager of Wales, the beautiful colours and excellent texture of which, were very warmly applauded. That lady had dresses made up of those articles, for her own, and her elder daughter's wear, and thus gave the first great impulse to a trade, which first inundated the kingdom with wealth, and lastly, from the enormous extent to which that manufacture was driven, has overwhelmed the country with starving myriads of unemployed spinners and weavers.

The 'Gentleman's,' in common with other, Magazines, gave the Princess Dowager praise for having, on the celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of her eldest daughter, the Princess AUGUSTA, appeared, with all her blooming girls, wearing articles of dress made up of ornamental needle-work. In those acts of patriotism and benevolence, the mother of the late King merited more than all the applause she received.

The year 1755, as regards the annals of George III. was remarkable for nothing more than the venom of family rancour, arising from the struggles of contending factions for political power, and the personal enmity existing between the aged Monarch and the ambitious, high-spirited mother of the youthful Heir apparent. The views of his Grandfather, as respected a consort for the royal youth, have already been developed.

The Gentleman's Magazine, for June, 1755, contains the following paragraph: *viz.*

"Wednesday, 4, being the birth-day of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, a pleasure barge, built by John Rich, Esq. was launched in the gardens at Kew, and named the *Augusta*. It is formed in a taste entirely new, and made to imitate a swan swimming; the imitation is so very natural, as hardly to be distinguished from a real bird, except by the size of it. The neck and head rise to the height of eighteen feet; the body forms a commodious cabin, neatly decorated, and large enough to accommodate ten persons; and the feet so artfully contrived, as to supply the place of oars, which move it with any degree of velocity. The novelty of the design, and the elegance of execution, afforded particular pleasure to the Royal Family who were present."

One of the Jacobite editors, indulging in malice in the display of his wit, observed, that the only anomaly existed in that being called a *swan*, which

was in reality a huge *goose*, and, as such, infinitely *more appropriate to the precious* freight it bore within its capacious belly.

On the 23d of November, the tremendous news arrived, of the great and magnificent city of Lisbon having been overthrown, and a hundred thousand persons, of all conditions, suddenly destroyed on the first of that month by an earthquake. The King sent a message to Parliament, proposing a liberal grant to the survivors. The private donations were commensurate with the wealth and spirit of the nation; amongst which the Editor has not been able to ascertain the quota subscribed by the Sovereign, whose private hoards were estimated by Mr. Bubb Doddington as amounting to the prodigious sum of *ten millions* sterling!

According to the statement of the venerable old men already quoted, the Prince of Wales continued rapidly improving in stature, personal strength, and manly exterior, still preserving that gentle and mild demeanour which had so powerfully endeared him to his attendants. His respectful behaviour towards his mother, could not be increased, and it remained undiminished. He maintained the same vigilant self-control, adhering to his early hours, and abstemious habits. His love of rural life seemed to grow with his growth; he pursued his field-sports with avidity, and evidently sought, by passively and cheerfully submitting to the exclusion to which he seemed doomed, to convince his aged grandsire how little he envied the pomp of regal sway, and how groundless was that jealousy which had operated his *banishment* from court, if such it might be termed. It is not likely that the Heir apparent, at the dangerous age of *eighteen*, was wholly exempted from the influence of youthful passions, nor unassailed by temptations. There were rumours of the royal youth having captivated a beautiful rustic, to whom he was strongly attach-

ed; and many an intriguing parent, and forward miss, as well as speculative husbands, and wanton wives, lay under imputations of aiming, by spreading their meretricious lures, to enslave the young Prince; but none of these appear sufficiently well authenticated, to deserve specific notice.

In the year 1756, two small quarto volumes were published by the Reverend LEONARD HOWARD, D. D. chaplain to the Princess Dowager of Wales, and rector of St. George's, Southwark, entitled, '*A collection of LETTERS and STATE PAPERS, from the original manuscripts of several princes and great personages in the two last centuries; with some curious and scarce TRACTS, pieces of antiquity, modern letters, &c. on several important subjects.*' These volumes are dedicated to GEORGE Prince of WALES.

In the preface, the reverend author says, 'I am tempted to make this humble offering to your Royal Highness, from your HUMANE DISPOSITION, and a sort of COMMAND from your ROYAL FATHER, to make these pieces of antiquity public, under his PATRONAGE; whom I had the honour and felicity to attend for a long course of years.'

The character given of William III. p. 150, of these Memoirs, in the extracts from '*the Old Courtier's MS.*' is highly coloured, and apparently tinged by personal dislike; and the very worst of motives are imputed to all his great projects against his father-in-law, James II. In the historical selections named, there is a document which imputes to the last James the infamy of having entered into a solemn league with the POPE, the Emperor of Germany, and the King of France, to extirpate, by brutal force, the PROTESTANT RELIGION. If this *unholy alliance* really existed, and King James acted as described; and if the whole story was not fabricated, to increase the aversion of the Protestants to his person and sway, he ought to have been brought to condign punishment.

This extraordinary paper is stated (vol. ii. p. 400) to have been found in the closet of the Marquis of H——, and to have been contributed by a Captain FLETCHER, ‘a gentleman *well known, and of strict honour and veracity* :’ viz.

“The King’s escape was not without the Prince of *Orange’s* privity, for the King (James II.) sent the Lord H—— to the Prince, to solicit him in his behalf, and the Prince said he could do nothing for him, *for no law would save him* ; and produced a STEEL BOX of the King’s, wherein was a covenant and league, written most of it with the King’s own hand, sealed, and subscribed by the *Pope*, the French King, and the King of England, binding themselves to extirpate and root out, in all haste, the *whole Protestants of Europe* ; each of their seals were appended: this the Prince shewed to the Lord H——, and said, ‘My Lord, I should not read it myself, nor let any other read it to you, *but read you it*, and as you tender the welfare of yourself and of your family, do not prejudice it, but after reading, restore it to me ;’ which being read by the Lord H——, he was astonished, and said he could say nothing in the King’s behalf. He immediately went to the King, and told him *he had undone us all*, himself, his family, and posterity, and the name of the *Stuarts*, for ever ! The King opposed it, saying, ‘*What have I done ? it is not so.*’ He answered, ‘Yes, Sir, you have undone yourself.’—‘*How ?*’ says the other. ‘With your hand, (said he,) for I have seen a covenant with three seals appended ; your’s, the French king’s, and the Pope’s.’—‘*Saw you it ?*’ said the King. ‘I did, sir,’ said the other.—‘*Can you swear it is my hand ?*’ says the King. ‘Yes, (said the other ;) and I will swear likewise it is the *French King’s* hand, for I know both your hands, and the most part is written with your own hand, and this I will swear.’—Then the King of England clapt his hands with sorrow, and beat his breast, crying out, ‘*Undone ! undone for ever !*’

“The way in which this was discovered, was as followeth : the STEEL BOX, with the paper in it, was sent to the Emperor to subscribe, and he, out of respect to the *French King*, let the Duke of *Lorraine* see it, he being at that time routed of his two Dukedoms of *Lorraine* and *Bar*, lying within the territories of the French King ; and knowing that the Prince of Orange had had the same measure by the French King, being ousted of his territory of *Orange*, &c. lying within the same territories ; withal, he having a hearty malice to the French King, sent this STEEL BOX to the Prince of *Orange*, which

was *the first thing that bred* all this in the Prince of Orange's breast; yet, out of duty and affection to the King of England, his father-in-law, he sent him to *Cobham Castle*, a place near the sea, and thirty miles from London, that he might the more easily make his escape."

A PLOT, for the extirpating '*the whole Protestants of Europe*,' goes so far beyond probability, that its absurdity defeats the malice of its fabricators. Still, it might have obtained credit with a youth of eighteen, who was in his heart a sincere and zealous Protestant; and have strongly operated ever after in closing his mind against granting the entire emancipation of his Roman Catholic subjects.

On the fourth of June, 1756, the Prince of Wales had attained his eighteenth year, and entered on his nineteenth; he was therefore competent to reign, had the throne become vacant. It was just prior to this crisis, that the King had sent the Prince an offer of forty thousand pounds per annum, and the royal apartments mentioned by Doddington;—an act of policy rather than of liberality, if it arose, as was supposed, from the *fears* of the ministers, and was intended as a magnificent bribe, expected to defeat the projects of the Pitt, Temple, and Grenville party, and uproot the powerful influence of the Princess, and her favourite, the Earl of Bute.

On the 28th of October, a grand Levee was held at Saville House, which may be considered as the Prince's FIRST COURT DAY, after his establishment had been formed. At the head of the Prince's household appeared the ominous name of JOHN, Earl of BUTE!

Two very important political events marked the annals of 1757: the one was the nomination of Mr. PITT, (afterwards Earl of Chatham,) as Secretary of State for foreign affairs, whose *unwelcome* presence in the cabinet soon arrested the rapid

tide of national disaster and disgrace, and rendered a war popular, which is said to have taken its rise in *foreign feelings*, and for foreign interests: the other, was the immolation of Admiral BYNG, whose conduct after his arrest, and at the awful moment when his anomalous sentence was executed, excited respect and pity in every manly bosom. During this year, the Prince of Wales led a most retired life; and the nation might have forgotten the Heir apparent, but for the different birth-day festivities, in which the name and existence of the young Prince were communicated to the nation. There occurred great riots in many parts of the kingdom; some blood was shed, and many severe examples made. The next year passed away, as far as the Prince was concerned, much like the former; his pursuits continued the same, his demeanour no less bland, and his personal exterior still more attractive and commanding.

In the year 1759, this Prince attained the age of TWENTY-ONE years, up to which period he had never taken his seat in the House of Lords; never been introduced into the Privy Council, nor matriculated in either of our universities; never been allowed to display the powers of his mind, his judgment, or his taste, in the selection of his associates. He had been held in a state of liberal seclusion, as absolute and unbroken as if his capacity to fulfil the varied and weighty functions of a king, had depended upon his remaining a stranger to his future subjects, and utterly ignorant of their character and wishes. During the continuance of this *rustication*, if the expression may be allowed, those predilections were implanted, strengthened, and matured, which, distracting his future councils, broke his peace, if not the sanity of his mind; dismembered his empire, and pursued the blameless Monarch, till, sinking beneath its accumulating load of ills, his mental faculties fell into a state of pre-

mature decay, whilst his physical frame yet remained strong and vigorous. Perhaps, take him all in all, there was not, at the age of TWENTY-ONE, a more amiable young man in the whole range of his future empire; no one, whose integrity was greater, whose leading propensities were more benevolent, whose morals were purer, or whose manners more decidedly bespoke the polish and the dignity of high estate. He certainly deserved to be happy, as there is just cause for giving him credit for the most ardent wish to confer happiness on others. Thence, as well as being the best and noblest of British youths, it may with equal truth and justice be said, he was also the most INJURED and UNFORTUNATE! The most injured, because of those family feuds, monarchical prejudices, and oligarchical cabals, which had excluded him from a free and frequent intercourse with the executive government; the most unfortunate, because those *exclusions* and *privations* prevented his acquiring that PERSONAL and PRACTICAL knowledge of his future subjects, and of their domestic and foreign interests, which were essentially necessary to form a great monarch.

That eminent authority, MILTON, thus briefly and forcibly illustrates his idea of a kingly education: "I CALL THAT A COMPLETE AND GENEROUS EDUCATION," said he, "WHICH FITS A PERSON TO PERFORM JUSTLY, SKILFULLY, AND MAGNANIMOUSLY, ALL THE OFFICES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE, OF PEACE AND OF WAR!" Discarding the latter proficiency, which the altered state of the British empire had rendered unnecessary, a slight comparison of the *manner* in which this Prince had been reared, that is, after the death of his generous and public-spirited father,—with the great duties he was expected to perform,—will convince every impartial reader how radically defective the whole system of his education had been. Those who coolly and dispassionately examine the preceding history of the YOUTH of GEORGE III.—

that carefully mark the various sketches developing his character, from the timid boy of NINE, to the modest man of TWENTY-ONE, years of age, will find nothing but what is gracious and good in the composition; and also nothing in the conduct of those by whom his education was conducted, which indicated a real, sincere, efficient wish, or an honest and earnest endeavour, properly and becomingly TO FORM THE FUTURE MONARCH. His education, if such it may be called, was made up of shreds and patches; his tutors evidently were objects of indifference, if not of his dislike; even the *desire* to excel as a scholar was extinguished, either by the *contempt* in which he heard men of the highest learning mentioned in his mother's court, or by the frequent and highly indecorous allusions to his own *personal deficiencies*, so often displayed in '*the Diary*.'

In the same proportion as the genius of the youthful Prince was thus depressed, it appears, by the evidence of living witnesses, that he was permitted to indulge his innocent inclinations and powerful predilection for the pure and tranquil pleasures of rural life. As far as possible, the Prince detached himself from his high-titled and privileged attendants; and he passed so much time on horseback, and in pedestrian excursions, in the royal parks and gardens, that it was impossible, except by abstaining from sleep, he could have spared time for abstracted studies. Hence it appears as if his ambitious mother had studiously encouraged this desultory mode of life, the better to ingratiate herself and Lord BUTE in his favour; between whom, if there existed no criminal connexion, there had clearly and decisively been matured and acted upon, a well-digested system to keep the future monarch in this state of seclusion from, and non-intercourse with, the busy world; in hope that, without polluting his morals, or stulti-

fyng his mind, it would retard or obstruct the full expansion of his intellectual powers, and hold his tractable and docile mind in that state of dependent awe and subjection, which might enable them to influence and regulate his future conduct: in fact, to reign under the name and symbols of GEORGE the THIRD. These causes and effects are requisite, to account, rationally and candidly, for the utter neglect of those great and wholesome reforms, which the varied selections in the preceding pages prove to have been so essentially wanting; and for the unwelcome and unexpected presence of many public measures, which, obscuring the dazzling brilliancy of his dawning reign, lamentably disappointed the hopes of those who fondly had anticipated, that, '*inheriting all the virtues*' of his generous and patriotic Sire, he would realize the flattering promises which that Sire had given, of ruling the nation CONSTITUTIONALLY, discarding the system of *coercion, of curbs, of checks, and gladiatorial factions*. For every good he bestowed, the nation had to thank his native purity of mind; for every good withheld, to reproach the *baleful coalition* between his MOTHER and Lord BUTE, and those persons also, for his every act that ran counter to the wishes of his people.

On Monday, the 4th of June, 1759, the Prince of Wales entered the twenty-second year of his age. On this occasion, which could not be very exhilarating to a worn-out old man, by no means remarkable for the strength of natural affections towards his grand-children, George II. had to receive the congratulatory addresses of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London. The Court was uncommonly crowded, and the municipal gentlemen were favourably received. At Leicester House, a larger number of votaries presented themselves than had been seen since the death of Prince Frederick. The late King, then in the

flower of manhood, appeared in high spirits, and was most superbly attired. His port was truly royal; and from the ease and dignity he then displayed, a Swedish nobleman observed, in a letter, a copy of which will be found farther on, that it might have been supposed by a stranger at his court, that the Prince of Wales had made the tour of Europe. The eyes of all the world were now turned towards him; and if the sincerity of the protestations of a courtly throng might justly be suspected, the heartfelt love and affection that beamed in every eye, and warmed every generous bosom, in the middle walks of life, displayed as powerful and genuine a feeling of real, substantial, good old English loyalty, as ever was cherished by the English nation towards an English Prince; not towards his person, independent of his patriotism, but rather in honour of those sound constitutional principles for which, in the candour of their hearts, and the fulness of their confidence, they gave him credit for possessing.

At this period, the elder children of the late Prince of Wales were grown up: Augusta was now in the twenty-third year of her age, a fine grown, high-spirited, young woman; but the brothers to the late King (the Dukes of York, Cumberland, and Gloucester) lost ground in public estimation, as they advanced in years, evincing a very inferior character to their eldest brother, whom the veterans already quoted exultingly termed, '*the flower of the flock!*' exhibiting strong symptoms of weak heads and indifferent hearts, of puerile intellects and *very indifferent morals*; which latter deficiency could not have been communicated by the young nobility of Britain, whose universal depravity in mind and manners had been so rudely denounced by their haughty, despotic mother, as she interdicted all intercourse.

A Quaker, residing in the City, refusing to com-

ply with the prevailing homage then rendered to the natal day of the Heir apparent, was very ill treated by some senseless noisy fellows, half drunk and half crazy, who broke his window-shutters and windows with paving stones, and greatly damaged his house and furniture.

It was remarked by some of the few Jacobitical writers of the day, that the old King appeared very desponding, in spite of every effort to seem cheerful. The same comments were made upon the looks of the Duke of Cumberland and the Princess Amelia. The fact is not improbable; for in spite of flatterers, the encroachments of old age are actively progressive; and it is too often seen, that as the powers of enjoyment decline, anxiety for a protracted existence increases. And as to the son and daughter of the reigning Monarch, the Duke of Cumberland and the Princess Amelia, they were of course fully sensible, that whilst they flourished under the wing of *their* father, they had not been remarkable for the delicacy of their conduct towards the father of the Prince, his mother, himself, his brothers nor sisters; they therefore might reasonably enough anticipate, in case of the King's demise, being paid in the same coin they had dispensed: the next chapter will shew, if such were their anticipations, they were not disappointed. Soon after this anniversary, died the Princess ELIZABETH CAROLINE, second daughter to the late Prince of Wales, in the twentieth year of her age: the royal maiden's corse was privately interred in Westminster Abbey. She was born the 10th of January, 1740. No one seemed to lament her early death with more sincerity than her elder brother, who was remarkable, even in his early youth, for the strength of his filial and fraternal feelings.

On Wednesday, the 17th of October, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Dowager, and most of the Royal Family and nobility, waited on the King, to

congratulate him on the capture of QUEBEC: the Park and Tower guns were fired; and in the evening there was a general illumination.

The year 1760, so important in the Memoir of George the Third, passed with the usual tranquillity of his life, except when the various Court festivals broke in upon its monotony. On the 4th of June, he completed the twenty-second year of his age; and the anniversary, the last he ever saw as Prince of Wales, was celebrated with the usual demonstrations of loyal affection.

On the *twenty-fifth* of October, the venerable Monarch, George the Second, expired; of whose decease, mention has been made, p. 63, prior to the commencement of the MEMOIRS of the YOUTH of GEORGE the THIRD; which portion of our history is thus closed.

CHAPTER XI.

FIRST EPOCH.—1760 TO 1770.

First moments of the Reign of GEORGE III.—BUTE and PITT.—Royal declaration to the Privy Council.—Royal Proclamation against Vice and Immorality.—Address from the Corporation of London.—The King's Reply.—Affectionate Letter written to George III. by Dr. Sherlock, bishop of London.—Royal Removals.—Descriptive Letter, written by Horace Walpole.—Reflections on Death.—Happy state of the British nation, 1760.—Popularity of George III.—Almost adored by the nation.—His maiden Speech to Parliament.—Addresses of the Lords and Commons.—An Accident.—An Anecdote.—Address from the Society of Friends.—An original Narrative, relative to a delicate subject.—Self-command.—A great Sacrifice: its probable result.

ON that mild and beautiful autumnal morning, when the venerable old Monarch, George II. sunk, without a struggle, into the arms of death, his young, cheerful, healthful Heir, had arisen at an early hour, and, mounted upon his favourite hunter 'Samson,' rode out to the 'Hundred Acres' at Batstead Downs,* where a stag was turned out, and the Prince, keen for the chase, anticipated, by the strength and size of the noble animal, a hard day's run; when suddenly a horseman covered with dust arrived, and hastily approaching the Prince, threw

* Lord Bateman was master of the stag hounds to George the Second; they were kenneled at this period at Barrow's Hedges.



R. Hon. George Grenville.



R. Hon. Charles Townshend.



John Earl of Bute.



Marquis of Rockingham.



Frederick Lord North.

B. Hicks sc.

himself off the reeking horse, and, bending his knee, hailed him as George III. and announced his Grandfather's death. Kennedy, the head huntsman, was close to the new King when the almost breathless messenger arrived, bearing the important tidings. According to his statement to John Lowe, no spark of joy appeared in the eyes, nor flushed on the features, of the young King, who instantly alighted from his noble steed, the better to interrogate the bearer of the intelligence respecting the manner in which his royal Grandfather had been attacked by illness, and what degree of pain he had endured prior to his dissolution. When he was convinced that his sufferings had been so short, he said, "*Poor old gentleman! I little expected these tidings this morning, for the King was remarkably well last night.*"—"Yes, Your Majesty, (said the messenger,) and so he was this morning, having ate his breakfast with a good appetite, and was just going down to the gardens to take a walk." The young King then asked how his aunt, the Princess Amelia, was, and how she had sustained the shock of her venerable Father's so sudden death?—and he appeared deeply affected, when he was told that the last words uttered by the expiring Sovereign, were, "*Call Amelia!*" and that, owing to her deafness, and the confusion which prevailed, she was not, on her arrival in the King's chamber, duly apprised of his death; but supposing him to have fallen down in a fit, from which he might recover, she hastily ran to the bed-side, and bent her face near his, when instantaneously the awful truth flashed on her mind, that her father was a corse!—The young Monarch was powerfully affected, and held his hunting-cap some minutes before his face, to conceal his tears. Alluding to his Grandfather and the Princess Amelia, he then said, '*God rest his soul! and enable her to bear this heavy blow! All the pleasures of this life are now for ever passed*

with me." Whilst he uttered those words, all his attendants stood uncovered. He then gave the messenger his purse, containing ten guineas and some silver, saying, "It is all the money I have about me; but I'll think of you the first opportunity, and provide for your future support." Such were the expressions used by George III. when the death of his aged Grandfather was announced.* He then vaulted into his saddle, and turning towards Kew, slowly waved his hand, as if repelling a crowd of noblemen and gentlemen who were advancing in haste towards him, for the purpose either of condolence or congratulation. He had not proceeded a mile, ere Lord Bute was seen riding at full speed towards the newly-announced Monarch, who, throwing himself off his fleet horse, would, on his knees, have hailed him as George the Third, if the modest young Prince had not shewn how strongly such demonstrations pained him, and insisted upon his Lordship's forbearing. Before they had reached the Palace of the Princess Dowager, his mother, the news had spread wide around, and he was greeted with loud and general acclamations, at which he seemed evidently distressed, because they were ill-timed.

Just as his Grandfather expired, Mr. PITT had left the King's presence, little thinking how near his venerable royal master was arrived to that moment, which, to him, had no successor. As soon as he found that the spark of life was extin-

* Some variations are observable between the account already given of these occurrences, and that now presented; but of a nature that rather confirms their general authenticity, than affecting their credit. The veteran, whose name is given as the author, expresses, in the most confident terms, his full belief in the truth of every syllable here inserted; and the Editor is pleased in having an opportunity of rescuing these fine traits of royal character from that oblivion in which they were so nearly engulfed.

guished, he drove with all possible speed, hoping he should be the first messenger of the great news; but he found Lord BUTE had been beforehand with him, and the rival statesmen returned to Kew, where not being very urgently pressed to stay, Mr. PITT proceeded back to town, ruminating perhaps on the clouds which might be expected to obscure the glory of the new reign, from the too obvious influence of the Earl of Bute, and the ambitious mother of the young Monarch.

Early the next day, (Sunday the 26th,) the King set out for St. James's Palace, accompanied by Lord BUTE. Upon His Majesty's arrival, Mr. Pitt presented him with a written paper, containing some suggestions which that bold and enterprising statesman conceived might be advantageously combined with his first address to the Privy Council. The King thanked the Minister for his considerate conduct, and informed him he *had already* considered the subject, and determined upon what he should say to the Privy Council. This was not a dismissal; but, as an omen, it was inauspicious, and proved that the influence which Lord Bute had been so many years laboriously, though secretly employed in creating, was likely to overpower that of Mr. Pitt and his colleagues. The Council met at Carlton House. Considering how sedulously the young Monarch had been secluded from state ministers and all state affairs, and that his natural diffidence increased the disadvantages of his inexperience, he acquitted himself very creditably, although, as might have been expected, he was at first rather agitated and embarrassed. He spake to the Council, after they had been sworn, with his hat on, thus:

“The loss that I and the nation have sustained by the death of the King my Grandfather, would have been severely felt at any time, but coming at so critical a juncture, and so unexpected, it is by many circumstances augmented, and the

weight now fallen upon me, much increased : I feel my own insufficiency to support it as I wish ; but animated by the tenderest affection for my native country, and depending on the experience, fidelity, and abilities of your Lordships, on the support and assistance of every honest man, I enter with cheerfulness into this arduous situation, and shall make it the business of my life, to promote, in every thing, the glory and happiness of these kingdoms ; to preserve and strengthen the Constitution, in Church and State ; and, as I mount the throne in the midst of an expensive, but just and necessary war, I shall endeavour to prosecute it, in the manner most likely to bring it to an honourable and lasting peace, in concert with my allies."

" Whereupon the Lords of the Privy Council made it their humble request to His Majesty, that His Majesty's most gracious declaration to their Lordships might be made public, which His Majesty was pleased to order accordingly.

" *Carlton House,*
26th October, 1760.

(Signed)

" F. VERNON."

On Monday the 27th, by the King's command, Edward Duke of York, and JOHN Earl of BUTE, were sworn in as members of the Privy Council.

On the same day, the following Order in Council was published, viz.

" *At the Court at Saville House, the 27th day of October, 1760 ; present. the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council:*

" Whereas, by the late Act of Uniformity, which establisheth the Liturgy, and enacts, That no form or order of common prayers be openly used, other than what is prescribed and appointed to be used in and by the said book, it is notwithstanding provided, that in all those Prayers, Litanies, and Collects, which do anywise relate to the King, Queen, or Royal Progeny, the names be altered and changed from time to time, and fitted to the present occasion, according to direction of lawful authority : His Majesty was pleased this day in Council to declare his royal will and pleasure, that in all the Prayers, Liturgies, and Collects, for the Royal Family, instead of the words [*their Royal Highnesses George Prince of Wales, the Princess Dowager of Wales, the Duke, the Princesses, and all the Royal Family*] be inserted [*Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales, and all the Royal Family.*]

And His Majesty doth strictly charge and command, that no edition of the Common Prayer be from henceforth printed but with this amendment; and that in the mean time, till copies of such editions may be had, all parsons, vicars, and curates, within this realm, do (for the preventing of mistakes) with the pen correct and amend all such prayers in their church books, according to the foregoing distinction. And for the better notice hereof, that this order be forthwith printed and published, and sent to the several parishes, and that the Right Reverend the Bishops do take care that obedience be paid to the same accordingly.

“ F. VERNON.”

The omission of the Duke of Cumberland's name in this new arrangement was much discussed at the time, and by many imputed to the enmity and secret influence of the Princess Dowager and Lord Bute.

On Tuesday the 28th of October, the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Chitty, Knt. Lord Mayor, and the Aldermen of the City of London, waited upon the King at Saville House; and being introduced to His Majesty by his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Chamberlain to the Household, the Recorder, Sir William Moreton, Knt. made the usual complimentary congratulations and condolence in the following speech: viz.

“ MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“ Your Majesty's truly dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, beg leave to approach your royal person, and congratulate Your Majesty upon your accession to the imperial throne of these realms; and, at the same time, to condole the loss of our late most gracious Sovereign, whose glorious reign and princely virtues must ever make his memory dear to a grateful people.

“ *It is our peculiar happiness that Your Majesty's heart is TRULY ENGLISH, and that you have discovered, in your earlier years, the warmest attachment to the laws and constitutions of these your kingdoms; laws so excellently formed, that,*

as they gave liberty to the people, they give power to the Prince, and are a mutual support of the prerogatives of the Crown, and the rights of the subject.

“*Your Majesty is now in possession of the UNITED HEARTS of all your people, at a time when the honour and credit of the nation are, (by the courage and activity of Your Majesty’s fleets and armies,) in the highest extent; a time when we have happily NO DIVISIONS AT HOME, to obstruct those measures which have carried terror to our enemies abroad.*

“*As Your Majesty’s reign is so happily begun with the universal approbation and joy of the whole nation, permit us, great Sir, to express the high sense we have of Your Majesty’s virtue, by the strongest assurance of our unalterable zeal for Your Majesty’s sacred person and government; being convinced that Your Majesty has the true interest of this nation entirely at heart, and that your power will ever be exercised in protecting the *trade, rights, and liberties*, of your subjects. May you reign long in the hearts of your people! and may the crown of these kingdoms ever descend to one of Your Majesty’s illustrious Family, to the latest posterity!”*

The King returned the following reply to this loyal address :

“*I have great satisfaction in the early marks you have given me of your zeal and affection for me and my government; and I return you my hearty thanks. You may rely on my tender concern for your *rights, trade, and manufactures*, of the City of London.”*

They were all received very graciously, and had the honour of kissing His Majesty’s hand; which ceremony ended, the Aldermen, *Thomas Rawlinson* and *Francis Gosling*, were knighted, the first of the numerous band of knights made by George the Third. It is worthy of remark, that the citizens of London, in their address, placed their ‘*trade*’ before their rights or liberties; whilst the young King, in his reply, reversed that arrangement, and placed ‘*the rights*’ before either their *trade* or *manufactures*. These little points were the vehicles of deep meaning—perhaps, of a silent reproach.

The following document is stated, in a periodical work of the day, to have been corrected by the pen of the Sovereign, whose peculiar merit it is, throughout his ensuing reign, to have acted conscientiously up to its spirit and principle.

By the KING.—A PROCLAMATION,

For the Encouragement of Piety and Virtue, and for preventing and punishing of Vice, Profaneness, and Immorality.

GEORGE R.

We most seriously and religiously considering, that it is an indispensable duty on us to be careful, above all other things, to preserve and advance the honour and service of Almighty God, and to discourage and suppress all vice, profaneness, debauchery, and immorality, which are so highly displeasing to God, so great a reproach to our Religion and Government, and (by means of the frequent ill examples of the practices thereof) have so fatal a tendency to the corruption of many of our loving subjects, otherwise religiously and virtuously disposed, and which (if not timely remedied) may justly draw down the Divine vengeance on us and our kingdoms; we also humbly acknowledging, that we cannot expect the blessing and goodness of Almighty God (by whom kings reign, and on which we entirely rely) to make our reign happy and prosperous to ourself and to our people, without a religious observance of God's holy laws: to the intent, therefore, that religion, piety, and good manners, may (according to our most hearty desire) flourish and increase under our Administration and Government, we have thought fit, by the advice of our Privy-Council, to issue this our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby declare our Royal purpose and resolution to discountenance and punish all manner of vice, profaneness, and immorality, in all persons of whatsoever degree or quality, within this our realm, and particularly in such as are employed near our Royal Person: and that, for the encouragement of religion and morality, we will, upon all occasions, distinguish persons of piety and virtue, by marks of our Royal favour. And we do expect and require that all persons of honour, or in places of authority, will give good example by their own virtue and piety, and to their utmost contribute to the discountenancing persons of dissolute and debauched

lives, that they, being reduced by that means to shame and contempt, for their loose and evil actions and behaviour, may be thereby also enforced the sooner to reform their ill habits and practices, and that the visible displeasure of good men towards them may (as far as it is possible) supply what the laws, probably, cannot altogether prevent. And we do hereby strictly enjoin and prohibit all our loving subjects, of what degree or quality soever, from playing on the Lord's-day at dice, cards, or any other game whatever, either in public or private houses, or other places whatsoever; and we do hereby require and command them, and every of them, decently and reverently to attend the worship of God on every Lord's-day, on pain of our highest displeasure, and of being proceeded against with the utmost rigour that may be by law. And for the more effectual reforming all such persons, who, by reason of their dissolute lives and conversations, are a scandal to our kingdoms, our further pleasure is, and we do hereby strictly charge and command all our Judges, Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, and all other our officers and ministers, both ecclesiastical and civil, and all other our subjects whom it may concern, to be very vigilant and strict in the discovery, and the effectual prosecution and punishment of all persons who shall be guilty of excessive drinking, blasphemy, profane swearing and cursing, lewdness, profanation of the Lord's-day, or other dissolute, immoral, or disorderly practices; and that they take care also effectually to suppress all public gaming-houses and places, and other lewd and disorderly houses, and to put into execution the statute made in the 29th year of the reign of the late King Charles the Second, entitled, "An Act for the better observation of the Lord's-day, commonly called Sunday:" and also an Act of Parliament made in the 9th year of the reign of the late King William the Third, entitled, "An Act for the more effectual suppressing of blasphemy and profaneness," and all other laws now in force for the punishing and suppressing any of the vices aforesaid; and also to suppress and prevent all gaming whatsoever in public or private houses on the Lord's-day; and likewise, that they take effectual care to prevent all persons keeping taverns, chocolate-houses, coffee-houses, or other public-houses whatsoever, from selling wine, chocolate, coffee, ale, beer, or other liquors, or receiving or permitting guests to be or remain in such their houses, in the time of divine service on the Lord's-day, as they will answer it to Almighty God, and upon pain of our highest displeasure. And for the more effectual proceeding herein, we do hereby direct and

command all our Judges of Assize and Justices of the Peace to give strict charges at their respective Assizes and Sessions, for the due prosecution and punishment of all persons that shall presume to offend in any of the kinds aforesaid; and also of all persons, that, contrary to their duty, shall be remiss or negligent in putting the laws in execution; and that they do at their respective Assizes and Quarter Sessions of the Peace, cause this our Royal Proclamation to be publicly read in open Court immediately before the charge is given. And we do hereby further charge and command every minister in his respective parish church or chapel, to read, or cause to be read, this our Proclamation, at least four times in every year, immediately after divine service, and to incite and stir up their respective auditors to the practice of piety and virtue, and the avoiding of all immorality and profaneness. And to the end that all vice and debauchery may be prevented, and religion and virtue practised by all officers, private soldiers, mariners, and others who are employed in our service by sea and land, we do hereby strictly charge and command all our commanders and officers whatsoever, that they do take care to avoid all profaneness, debauchery, and other immoralities; and that by their own good and virtuous lives and conversations, they do set good examples to all such as are under their care and authority; and likewise take care of and inspect the behaviour of all such as are under them, and punish all those who shall be guilty of any offences aforesaid, as they will be answerable for the ill consequences of their neglect herein.

Given at our Court at Leicester House, the 31st day of October, 1760, and in the 1st year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Copy of a Letter from the Bishop of London to the late King.

SIRE,

Nov. 1, 1760.

Amidst the congratulations that surround the throne, permit me to lay before Your Majesty a heart, which, though oppressed with age and infirmity, is no stranger to the joys of my country.

When the melancholy news of the late King's demise reached us, it naturally led us to consider the loss we had sustained, and upon what our hopes of futurity depended. The first part excited grief, and put all the tender passions into motion; but the second brought life and spirit with it, and wiped away the tears from every face.

Oh! how graciously did the providence of God provide a successor, able to bear the weight of Government in that unexpected event!

You, Sire, are the person whom the people ardently desire: which affection of their's is happily returned, by Your Majesty's declared concern for their prosperity. And let nothing disturb this mutual consent. Let there be but one contest between them—whether the King loves the people best, or the people him: and may it be a long, a very long, contest; may it never be decided, but let it remain doubtful; and may the paternal affection on the one side, and the filial obedience on the other, be had in perpetual remembrance.

This will probably be the last time I shall ever trouble Your Majesty. I beg leave to express my warmest wishes and prayers on your behalf. May the God of heaven and earth have you always under his protection, and direct you to seek his honour and glory in all you do; and may you reap the benefit of it, by an increase of happiness in this world, and in the next.

The King, on Tuesday the 4th of November, removed from Saville House to St. James's Palace; the Duke of Cumberland, quitting which palace, went to Schomberg House, Pall Mall; that *once* important lady, the *Countess of Yarmouth*, took wing, and alighted at Mrs. Nugent's, in Dover-street; the Princess Amelia retired to Sir Edward Lyttleton's house in Cavendish-square; the Duke of York took possession of Saville House; the Princess Dowager remained in possession of Leicester House.

The sudden removal of the Duke of Cumberland and the Princess Amelia excited some discussion, as denoting an indecent haste, if not a personal pique; but this, and every thing else that wore an ungracious aspect, was placed to the account of the Princess and of Lord Bute!

The following letters, written by Horace Walpole, will probably be deemed amusing, instructive, and highly illustrative of passing events.

Arlington-street, Nov. 4, 1760.

I am not gone to Houghton, you see: my Lord Orford is come to town, and I have persuaded him to stay and perform decencies.

King George II. is dead; richer than Sir Robert Brown, though perhaps not so rich as my Lord Hardwicke. He has left £50,000 between the Duke, Emily, and Mary; the Duke has given up his share. To Lady Yarmouth a cabinet, with the contents; they call it £11,000. By a German deed, he gives the Duke to the value of £180,000, placed on mortgages not immediately recoverable! He had once given him twice as much more, then revoked it, and at last excused the revocation on the pretence of the expenses of the war; but owns he was the best son that ever lived, and had never offended him—a pretty strong comment on the affair of Closterseven. He gives him besides all his jewels in England, but had removed all his best to Hanover, which he makes crown-jewels, and his successor residuary legatee. The Duke too has some uncounted cabinets. My Lady Suffolk has given me a particular of his jewels, which plainly amount to £150,000. It happened oddly to my Lady Suffolk. Two days before he died, she went to make a visit at Kensington; not knowing of the review, she found herself hemmed in by coaches, and was close to him, whom she had not seen for so many years, and to my Lady Yarmouth, but they did not know her; it struck her, and made her very sensible to his death.

The changes hang back. Nothing material has been altered yet. Ned Finch, the only thing my Lady Yarmouth told the new King she had to ask for, is made surveyor of the roads, in the room of Sir Harry Erskine, who is to have an old regiment. He excuses himself from seeing company, as favourite of the favourite. Arthur is removed from being clerk of the wine-cellar,—a sacrifice to morality. The Archbishop has such hopes of the young King, that he is never out of the circle! He trode upon the Duke's foot, on Sunday, in the haste of his zeal. The Duke said to him, "My Lord, if your Grace is in such a hurry to make your court, that is the way." Bon-mots come thicker than changes. Charles Townshend, receiving an account of the impression the King's death had made, was told Miss Chudleigh cried: "What, (said he) Oysters!" And last night, Mr. Dauncey asking George Selwyn if Princess Emily would have a guard? he replied, "Now and then one, I suppose."

An extraordinary event has happened to-day: George Townshend sent a challenge to Lord Albemarle, desiring him to be with his second in the field. Lord Albemarle took Colonel Crawford, and went to Mary-le-bone. George Townshend bespoke Lord Buckingham, who loves a secret too well not to tell it; he communicated it to Stanley, who went to St. James's, and acquainted Mr. Caswall, the Captain on guard. The latter took a hackney-coach, drove to Mary-le-bone, and saw one pair. After waiting ten minutes, the others came. Townshend made an apology to Lord Albemarle for making him wait. "Oh," said he, "men of spirit don't want apologies. Come, let us begin what we came for." At that instant, out steps Caswall from his coach, and begs their pardon as his superior officers, but told them they were his prisoners. He desired Mr. Townshend and Lord Buckingham to return to their coach; he would carry back Lord Albemarle and Crawford in his. He did; and went to acquaint the King, who has commissioned some of the matrons of the army to examine the affair, and make it up. All this while, I don't know what the quarrel was; but they hated one another so much on the Duke's account, that a slight word would easily make their aversion boil over. Don't you, nor even your General, come to town on this occasion! Good night.

Your's ever,

HOR. WALPOLE.

Arlington-street, Nov. 13, 1760.

Even the honey-moon of a new reign don't produce events every day. There is nothing but the common *saying* of addresses, and kissing hands. The chief difficulty is settled: Lord Gower yields the Mastership of the Horse to Lord Huntingdon, and removes to the Great Wardrobe, from whence Sir Thomas Robinson was to have gone into Ellis's place, but he is saved. The city, however, have a mind to be out of humour: a paper has been fixed on the Royal Exchange, with these words: "No petticoat Government, no Scotch Minister, no Lord George Sackville;" two hints totally unfounded, and the other scarce true. No petticoat ever governed less; it is left at Leicester House; Lord George's breeches are as little concerned; and except Lady Susan Stuart and Sir Harry Erskine, nothing has yet been done for any Scots. For the King himself, he seems all good-nature, and wishing to satisfy every body; all his speeches are oblig-

ing. I saw him again yesterday, and was surprised to find the levee-room had lost so entirely the air of the lion's den. This Sovereign don't stand in one spot, with his eyes fixed royally on the ground, and dropping bits of German news; he walks about, and speaks to every body. I saw him afterwards on the throne, where he is graceful and genteel, sits with dignity, and reads his answers to addresses well: it was the Cambridge address, carried by the Duke of Newcastle in his doctor's gown, and looking like the *Medecin malgre lui*. He had been vehemently solicitous for attendance, for fear my Lord Westmorland, who vouchsafes himself to bring the address from Oxford, should outnumber him. Lord Litchfield, and several other Jacobites, have kissed hands. George Selwyn says, "They go to St. James's, because now there are so many *Stuarts* there."

Do you know, I had the curiosity to go to the burying to other night: I had never seen a royal funeral; nay, I walked as a rag of quality, which I found would be, and so it was, the easiest way of seeing it. It is absolutely a noble sight. The Prince's chamber, hung with purple, and a quantity of silver lamps; the coffin under a canopy of purple velvet, and six vast chandeliers of silver on high stands, had a very good effect. The Ambassador from Tripoli and his son were carried to see that chamber. The procession, through a line of foot-guards, every seventh man bearing a torch; the horse-guards lining the outsides, their officers with drawn sabres, and crape sashes, on horseback, the drums muffled, the fifes, bells tolling, and minute-guns; all this was very solemn. But the charm was the entrance of the Abbey, where we were received by the Dean and Chapter, in rich robes, the choir and alms-men bearing torches; the whole Abbey so illuminated, that one saw it to greater advantage than by day; the tombs, long aisles, and fretted roof, all appearing distinctly, and with the happiest *chiaro scuro*. There wanted nothing but incense, and little chapels here and there, with priests saying mass for the repose of the defunct; yet one could not complain of its not being Catholic enough. I had been in dread of being coupled with some boy of ten years old; but the heralds were not very accurate, and I walked with George Grenville, taller and older, to keep me in countenance. When we came to the chapel of Henry VII. all solemnity and decorum ceased; no order was observed; people sat or stood where they could or would; the yeomen of the guard were crying out for help, oppressed by the immense weight of the coffin. The Bishop read sadly, and blundered in the prayers:

the fine chapter, "Man that is born of a woman," was chaunted, not read; and the anthem, besides being immeasurably tedious, would have served as well for a nuptial. The real serious part was the figure of the Duke of Cumberland, heightened by a thousand melancholy circumstances. He had a dark-brown adonis, and a cloak of black cloth, with a train of five yards. Attending the funeral of a father could not be pleasant; his leg extremely bad, yet forced to stand upon it near two hours; his face bloated and distorted with his late paralytic stroke, which has affected, too, one of his eyes; and placed over the mouth of the vault, into which, in all probability, he must himself so soon descend: think how unpleasant a situation! He bore it all with a firm and unaffected countenance. This grave scene was fully contrasted by the burlesque Duke of Newcastle. He fell into a fit of crying the moment he came into the chapel, and flung himself back in a stall, the Archbishop hovering over him with a smelling-bottle; but in two minutes his curiosity got the better of his hypocrisy, and he ran about the chapel with his glass, to spy who was or who was not there, spying with one hand, and mopping his eyes with the other. Then returned the fear of catching cold; and the Duke of Cumberland, who was sinking with heat, felt himself weighed down, and turning round, found it was the Duke of Newcastle standing upon his train, to avoid the chill of the marble. It was very theatric to look down into the vault where the coffins lay, attended by mourners with lights. Clavering, the groom of the bedchamber, refused to sit up with the body, and was dismissed, by the King's order.

I have nothing more to tell you but a trifle, a very trifle. The King of Prussia has totally defeated Marshal Daun. This, which would have been prodigious news a month ago, is nothing to-day; it only takes its turn among the questions, "Who is to be groom of the bedchamber? What is Sir Thomas Robinson to have?" I have been to Leicester Fields to-day; the crowd was immoderate; I don't believe it will continue so. Good night.

Your's ever,

HOR. WALPOLE.

Strawberry Hill, Monday, Nov. 24, 1760.

Unless I were to send you journals, lists, catalogues, computations of the bodies, tides, swarms of people that go to Court to present addresses, or to be presented, I can tell you

nothing new. The day the King went to the House I was three-quarters of an hour getting through Whitehall: there were subjects enough to set up half a dozen petty kings; the Pretender would be proud to reign over the footmen only; and, indeed, unless he acquires some of them, he will have no subjects left; all their masters flock to St. James's; and the Palace is so thronged, that I will stay till some people are discontented. The first night the King went to the play, which was civilly on a Friday, not on the opera night, as he used to do, the whole audience sung "God save the King," in chorus. For the first act, the press was so great at the door, that no ladies could go to the boxes, and only the servants appeared there, who kept places; at the end of the second act the whole mob broke in, and seated themselves; yet all this zeal is not likely to last, though he so well deserves it. Seditious papers are again stuck up: one t'other day in Westminster Hall declared against a Saxe-Gothan Princess. The Archbishop, who is never out of the drawing-room, has great hopes from the King's goodness, that he shall make something of him—that is, something bad of him. On the address, Pitt and his zany Beckford quarrelled, on the latter's calling the campaign languid. * * * *. This is a very brief letter: I fear this reign will soon furnish longer. When the last King could be beloved, a young man with a good heart has little chance of being so. Moreover, I have a maxim, that *the extinction of party is the origin of faction*. Good night.

Your's ever,

HOR. WALPOLE.

The remains of George II. were, with due pomp and solemnity, consigned to their stately mausoleum in the Abbey, on the evening of Tuesday the 11th of November, and the next day intelligence arrived of a splendid victory gained by the King of Prussia over the army commanded by Field Marshal Daun. Thus one monarch sunk beneath—and another rose above—the British horizon, amidst a blaze of unrivalled and unsullied glory. The Park and Tower guns were fired to announce this event, that was more splendid than advantageous to British interests. This battle had been expected some time; and the anxiety of the old King to ascertain the

state of the wind at the instant when he fell dead, arose from his impatient desire to learn its result. Consigned to the cold chambers of death, he heard not the thunder of the artillery playing around; nor could the blaze of the general illumination, which followed the ensuing evening, penetrate the gloom of his dark sepulchre. In the universal burst of national joy and rapture which pervaded all ranks of people, the old Monarch was suddenly forgotten; and the young King appeared under advantages superior to those connected with any predecessor, except Queen Elizabeth. The person, manners, morals of George III. were praised by admiring and applauding millions. He was gentle, docile, and his love of his people apparently as sincere as that which was so loudly and vehemently demonstrated towards his royal person. Under such pleasing and auspicious circumstances,—the kingdom happy, tranquil, and united,—its arms victorious on the ocean and on the land, in every quarter of the globe,—what obstacle to the repeal of the obnoxious septennial act, and to a thorough reform of all existing abuses, could have been anticipated, or dreaded, if his ministers had had courage and virtue to have boldly, yet respectfully, urged the young Monarch to have recommended those great measures? Unhappily, that foe to every thing liberal or graceful in the art of government, Lord Bute, afforded the only excuse that could be offered by Mr. Pitt and his associates for the omission, were they capable of being called upon for their defence. They felt the pestiferous influence of that corrupt instrument, even before he had set his foot within the council-chamber; and when he had wriggled himself into a place at the table, the popular ministers felt the ground give way under their feet. By a weak and temporizing policy, they courted humiliation and defeat, when an opposite course might have

kept the demoralizing minion at a distance, and have prevented those unpalatable measures which gave rise to a course of crooked politics, which rendered the young Monarch unpopular and unhappy, and involved the country in a most unnatural warfare with her trans-atlantic children! Such were the bitter fruits of the expansion and diffusion of that baleful influence which Lord Bute had been so many years employed in creating and consolidating.

It was well observed very recently in '*The Times*,' that the commencement of a new reign is of itself a VAST domestic incident, forming one of the great marks established by general consent, for estimating a nation's age. Thus, he that in after ages shall have occasion to refer to the FIRST year of George III. will, by an unavoidable association of ideas, dwell with feelings of pleasure, perhaps of melancholy, upon the happy state of England at that most brilliant period of its history; when the administration of public justice was wholly free, not merely from secret influence and oppression in state cases, but even from suspicion! When the liberties of the people were unrestricted by every thing, except, perhaps, the *Septennial Act* and *Excise Laws*,—when every working man could earn as much money in a week, as, if expended with care, was competent to the decent maintenance of his family a fortnight,—when the sad extremes, now so obviously prominent, of exuberant wealth and luxury, and pale-cheeked poverty and squalid want, were happily unknown,—when there was a strong spirit of pride and integrity in merchants, and an oath was held sacred,—when a child of six years old might, with as much safety, have been sent to purchase an article of a shopkeeper, as the keenest adult of the present day,—when the rustic labourer enjoyed his cottage immunities, a pasture heath, that afforded food for his cow, sheep, geese, or swine, and fuel for household use,—when he

could dress well, had a flitch of bacon on the rack, a pig in his sty, and a barrel of ale for wakes and festivals,—when a liberal plenty diffused itself throughout the land,—when hospitality was not noticed from its prevalence,—when ten farms were seen, where only one appears at the present day,—when the farmers' wives and daughters, jocund and happy, decked out in rustic finery, trudged on foot to market with baskets of butter, eggs, or poultry,—and when the *sale price* of provisions was scarcely superior to the *profit* claimed by the retailers of food, at the less auspicious commencement of the present reign,—when *pauperism*, though an increasing and alarming evil, was but as a speck, a mere mole-hill, compared to its present mountain size,—our prisons, only of their ancient capacity,—our work-houses very few, and our barracks still fewer! Such are the proud recollections which will for ever present themselves with the first year of the reign of GEORGE the THIRD! England at this period had ascended to the highest pinnacle of her true greatness and prosperity! and happy had it been, if her statesmen could have confined her power and dominion within those limits, and said to their successors, '*Thou shalt go no further! preserve what we have attained, and seek no more.*' The morals of the nation, taken on a general scale, were then in a high state of comparative purity. Commerce had not yet *familiarized* its votaries with base expedients. The great body of the people were sound at the core. There was less preaching, and less fanaticism; fewer churches, still fewer chapels; more truly religious sentiment, and the social virtues of our ancestors yet flourished. All that we have since gained, in power, dominion, and glory, we have more than lost in morals, happiness, and freedom. The picture of England in 1760 is most delightful: the pen dwells with fondness upon the genial glories of that golden æra.

On Tuesday, the 18th of November, accompanied by his evil genius, Lord BUTE, in quality of Groom of the Stole, the young Monarch went in state to meet his people in Parliament. As he passed along in slow procession, his eyes beheld the truest love and admiration lighting up every honest face. The windows were crowded with the youthful fair, who waved their lily hands, applauding the Monarch as he passed; whilst free and unbought huzzas resounded from the assembled multitude, which plaudits continued almost without abatement, till the imposing spectacle was over. The King was nearly overpowered by these demonstrations of universal love: till then he had no adequate conception how vast was the fund of affection that dwelt in the bosom of his people. It touched his grateful heart so deeply, that as he put on his robes of state, he was seen to wipe away the tears that had spontaneously flowed. Those were tears of joy; but, alas! the virtuous Monarch lived to shed many a tear of sorrow, though not one embittered by a sense of guilt or remorse.

Thus cheered and sustained, the youthful King met his people in Parliament, if the assertion may be allowed, not alone unawed, but probably with a feeling that the assembly before him was far inferior to himself, in purity of mind and real patriotism, and not good enough to be considered as a fair specimen of the purest and least tainted portion of his nation. A sudden flush overspread his florid cheeks, as he ascended the Throne. In a moment his countenance became calm and collected; and with that ease and dignity which commanded the spontaneous applause of Mr. QUIN, he read his maiden speech, which ran as follows, *viz.*

“MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN,

“The just concern which I have felt in my own breast, on the sudden death of the late King, my royal Grandfather,

makes me not doubt that you must all have been deeply affected with so severe a loss. The present critical and difficult conjuncture has made this loss the more sensible; as he was the great support of that system, by which alone the liberties of Europe, and the weight and influence of these kingdoms, can be preserved; and gave life to measures conducive to those important ends.

“ I need not tell you the addition of weight which immediately falls upon me, in being called to the government of this free and powerful country, at such a time and under such circumstances. MY CONSOLATION IS IN THE UPRIGHTNESS OF MY INTENTIONS, your faithfulness and united assistance, and the BLESSING OF HEAVEN upon our joint endeavour, which I devoutly implore.

“ BORN AND EDUCATED IN THIS COUNTRY, I GLORY IN THE NAME OF A BRITON; AND THE PECULIAR HAPPINESS OF MY LIFE WILL EVER CONSIST IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF A PEOPLE, WHOSE LOYALTY AND WARM AFFECTION TO ME I CONSIDER AS THE GREATEST AND MOST PERMANENT SECURITY OF MY THRONE; and I doubt not, that their steadiness in those principles, will equal the firmness of my invariable resolution to adhere to and strengthen this excellent Constitution in Church and State, and to maintain the TOLERATION INVIOLEABLE. The civil and religious rights of my subjects are equally dear to me with the prerogatives of the Crown: and as the surest foundation of the whole, and the best means to draw down the Divine favour on my reign, it is my fixed purpose to countenance and encourage the practice of TRUE RELIGION AND VIRTUE.”

Perhaps, if a BUTE had not been near the young, wise, and virtuous Monarch, when he admitted that in *the affection of his People existed the strongest bulwarks of his Throne*, he might have gratuitously added, that his Family stood indebted for that Throne to the Nation's choice. With this nominal drawback, the whole speech reflects honour upon his memory; and is the better worthy of esteem, as it was generally considered at the day as being REALLY the KING'S SPEECH; i. e. not wholly fabricated by his ministers, nor intended to panegyrize their acts.

On this august occasion, but no other, the addresses from the Lords and Commons will be inserted: the paragraphs of which supply the absence of those portions of the King's Speech; which, for brevity's sake, have been omitted: *viz.*

The humble Address of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, Nov. 18, 1760.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return Your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

On this first occasion of approaching your Royal Person, permit us to express our unfeigned sorrow for the severe and afflicting loss, which not only this nation, but all Europe, has sustained in the sudden death of our late excellent and most gracious Sovereign, Your Majesty's illustrious Grandfather. The long experience which we had of his royal virtues, the benignity of his government, and his uniform care of our laws and liberties, not interrupted in any one instance, during the course of so many years, demand from us the most grateful acknowledgments; and will make his memory as dear to us, as the height and splendour to which he had raised the greatness of these kingdoms will render it glorious to all posterity.

Such a loss could only be repaired by Your Majesty. And at the same time that we condole with Your Majesty on this melancholy event, we beg leave to offer you our most sincere congratulations on your happy accession to the throne. As Your Majesty is the rightful and immediate inheritor of his Crown, you are so of those virtues with which he adorned it, and which promise a continuation of the same blessings to these kingdoms. It fills our minds with inexpressible joy, to see the pleasing hopes we had conceived from your many princely and amiable endowments, and the early demonstrations of your affection to this Country, so fully verified in your first declarations to your Parliament.

We are penetrated with the condescending and endearing manner in which Your Majesty has expressed your satisfaction in having received your birth and education amongst us. What a lustre doth it cast upon the name of Briton, when you, Sir, are pleased to esteem it amongst your glories!

The several paternal assurances which Your Majesty has vouchsafed to give us, speak your resolution to be the common Father of your people. No stronger proof can be given of it than by adopting this undeniable maxim, that their love is the best security of your throne. From this principle will naturally flow the strictest adherence to our excellent Constitution in Church and State, and the maintenance of that surest cement of the Protestant interest in these kingdoms—the Toleration: and we cannot but applaud Your Majesty's wisdom and piety, in making the encouragement of true religion and virtue one of the great foundations of your Government.

* * * * *

The anxiety which Your Majesty has so early declared, for the uncommon burdens of your people, demands our sincerest thanks. Your tender concern will be an inducement to bear them the more cheerfully, and a pledge to your faithful subjects, that they shall be relieved from them as soon as the public security will, in sound policy, admit.

These many eminent proofs of Your Majesty's goodness, and of your fixed attention to our happiness, call upon us for the warmest returns of duty, gratitude, and affection, to your sacred person and government. Our loyalty and fidelity are inviolable. Our resolutions to maintain your undoubted title to this Imperial Crown, and the Protestant succession in your illustrious House, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, is never to be shaken. Happy shall we be in every instance, whereby we may be able to contribute to the glory, prosperity, and ease, of your reign. Your Majesty's prudence, and the benevolence of your royal heart, have pointed out to us the most agreeable means of promoting these ends, by so strongly inculcating the continuance of that union and good harmony which subsist amongst your people. In doing this, Your Majesty has set an inviting and powerful example to all your subjects, which we are determined to follow, by performing every thing on our part to strengthen and improve this happy situation.

The humble Address of the House of Commons, to the King.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, approach your royal presence, to express the deepest sense of the great

and severe loss which Your Majesty and these kingdoms have sustained by the death of Your Majesty's Royal Grandfather, our late most excellent Sovereign; the memory of whose just and prosperous reign will be held in reverence by latest posterity.

We beg leave to congratulate Your Majesty on your happy accession to the throne, the only consideration that can alleviate our grief for such a loss. The knowledge of Your Majesty's royal virtues, wisdom, and firmness, opens to your faithful subjects the fairest prospect for their future happiness at home, and for the continuance of that weight and influence of Your Majesty's crown abroad, so essentially necessary, in this arduous and critical conjuncture, for the preservation of that system, upon which the liberties of Europe depend.

We return Your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne; and acknowledge, with the liveliest sentiments of duty, gratitude, and exultation of mind, those most affecting and animating words of our most gracious Sovereign—That born and educated in this country, he glories in the name of Briton. And we offer to Your Majesty the full tribute of our hearts, for the warm expression of your truly royal and tender affection towards your people. We venerate, and confide in, those sacred assurances of Your Majesty's firm and invariable resolution, to adhere to and strengthen this excellent Constitution in Church and State: to maintain the toleration inviolate; and to protect your faithful subjects in that greatest of human blessings, the secure enjoyment of their religious and civil rights.

* * * * *

Your Majesty's faithful Commons approach your royal person with hearts penetrated by the warmest and liveliest sense of your unbounded tenderness and concern for the welfare of your people; and rejoicing at the high satisfaction Your Majesty takes in the union which so universally prevails throughout your kingdoms, a deep sense of that national strength and prosperity visibly derived from this salutary source, and, above all, Your Majesty's approbation of that happy union, and the natural disposition and wish of your royal heart to cement and promote it, are the strongest incentives to concord, and the surest pledge of its duration. The fixt resolution, which Your Majesty has declared, to countenance and encourage the practice of true religion and virtue, will, we doubt not, prove the best means of drawing down the favour of God upon a dutiful and united nation: and we shall never cease devoutly to offer up our ardent vows to the Divine Pro-

vidence, that, as a recompence for these royal virtues, Your Majesty may reign in the hearts of a free and happy people; and that they, excited by Your Majesty's benevolent care to discharge your royal functions, and animated by gratitude for the enjoyment of so many blessings, may make the due return, by a constant obedience to your laws, and by the most steady attachment and loyalty to your person and government.

On Tuesday the 25th of November, the Princess Amelia quitted Kensington Palace, where she had passed so many happy years, and where, as it was observed in a daily print, she might, without inconvenience to the King, have been allowed to have remained. And that day week, as the King was mounting his horse in Hyde Park, the high-spirited animal began rearing and plunging, in a way that induced the royal horseman to throw himself off.* Happily, he received no material injury, although he submitted to be blooded. In the evening, he made his *first appearance*, as a British Monarch, at Covent Garden Theatre, where he went to see Hamlet performed. He was hailed with thundering plaudits, as if to mark the grateful pleasure of the audience to see that their adored young Sovereign had escaped unhurt from the accident of the morning.

The servility of the priesthood towards thrones and monarchs—the cupidity of ambitious and rapacious time-serving clergy—have been prominently conspicuous in all ages, and all countries. Accord-

* The son of a French Marshal, an exile of 1815, who is shortly expected to arrive, if he has not already arrived at Liverpool, from the United States, recently told the Editor, amongst many curious anecdotes of the Ex-Emperor NAPOLEON, that when he fell from his horse, he would sometimes ask his equerry, ‘*Which was in fault?—myself, or my horse?*’ The blame, as a matter of course, fell upon the horse; when Napoleon would say, with a laugh, ‘*Very well: then don't let me ride that horse again.*’ Whether George III. on this occasion, asked any such question, cannot be ascertained.

ing to Warburton's Letter, dated November 29th, 1760, three preachers, more or less tainted, namely, *Nichols, Potter, and T. Wilson*, preaching before Monarchy at St. James's, so *bedaubed* the new King, that, according to the authority of Lord Mansfield, His Majesty expressed his displeasure publicly, by saying to the reverend sycophants, '*I came to chapel to hear the praises of God, and not of myself!*'*

On the 1st of December, the Society of Quakers sent a deputation to *congratulate* and *condole* the King: their plain but eloquent address ran thus, *viz.*

The Address of the People called Quakers; presented by Dr. Fothergill.

To George the Third, King of Great Britain, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

The humble Address of his Protestant Subjects, the People called Quakers.

MAY IT PLEASE THE KING:

Deeply affected with the sudden and sorrowful event that leads our fellow-subjects with condolence to the throne, we beg leave to express the sympathy we feel on this afflicting occasion.

Justly sensible of the favour and protection we have enjoyed during the late mild and happy reign, and impressed with the warmest sentiments of duty and gratitude to our deceased Sovereign, we pay this tribute of unaffected grief to the memory of the father and the friend of his people.

We have abundant reason to acknowledge the goodness of Almighty God, for continuing to this period a life of such importance to the welfare of these kingdoms—a period, when we behold a Prince endowed with qualities that add lustre to a Crown, formed by tuition and example to protect the liberties of his people, ascending the British throne, and, in the earliest acts of power, giving the most ample demonstrations of his royal regard for piety and virtue.

* The Emperor Alexander, after his first return from Paris, was annoyed in the same way by rapacious and idolatrous priests, and gave them the same rebuke.

Ever faithful and zealously affected to thy illustrious House, though differing in sentiments and conduct from others of our fellow-subjects, we embrace this opportunity to crave thy indulgence and protection; and beg leave to assure the King, that our dissent proceeds not from a contumacious disregard to the laws, to custom, or authority, but from motives to us purely conscientious.

The same religious principle that produces this dissent, we trust, through divine assistance, will continue to engage us, as it always hath done since we were a people, to exert whatever influence we may be possessed of, in promoting the fear of God, the honour of the King, and the prosperity of his subjects.

May the Almighty bless thy endeavours to put a stop to the effusion of blood, and render thee the happy instrument of restoring peace and tranquillity. May sacred and unerring wisdom ever be thy guide, adorn thee with every virtue, and crown thee with every blessing, that future ages may commemorate the happiness of thy reign with grateful admiration.

Signed in London, the first day of the twelfth month, 1760.

His Majesty's answer was laconic, yet pleasing:

"This dutiful and loyal address is very acceptable to me, and you may depend on my protection."

The King, on the 9th and 23d of December, went in state to the House of Peers, in a new state carriage.* All his yeomen and footmen were mag-

* The King's state carriage, built for this occasion, attracted many spectators, and was greatly admired. The allegorical paintings on its pannels were executed by CIPRIANI. This branch of the arts (ornamental coach-painting) was, at this time, an important source of emolument, even to royal academicians. In Queen Anne's and George the First's reign, the pannels of the carriages (as is *still* the fashion in the north of Europe, amongst provincial nobility) were ornamented with historical or amatory designs; which being sometimes ill chosen, or ill assorting with their owner's person, character, or manners, often exposed them to ridicule.

When this fashion went out of favour, the arms and supporters were displayed upon capacious mantlets. Those were soon resigned, to make way for more fanciful designs. Next, those beauties of the fields and gardens, FLOWERS, were formed into

nificently clad in new liveries. On each occasion he was accompanied by immense crowds, who rent the air with their heartfelt and unbidden plaudits, spontaneously bestowed. On the evening of the 23d, the King honoured Old Drury with a visit, where his presence was rapturously applauded, and he saw another of Shakspeare's tragedies, (*KING JOHN*) performed.

Christmas-day was celebrated with great splendour and solemnity at Court. The sermon, in the Royal Chapel, was preached by the Archbishop of York. The Bishop of Durham administered the sacrament to the young Monarch. The pious and unaffected demeanour of the Sovereign was praised by a contemporaneous writer, as affording a striking contrast to the overwhelming pride of some of the sons of the Church, who were unable to imitate the humility of their great Redeemer, or the modesty of their King, whose manner was particularly admired, when, with grave solemnity, he made the usual offering of a *Byzant*, or wedge of gold, for the benefit of the poor.

Without stooping to seek after a casual amour, or drag into the blaze of day those dubious tales of youthful frailty, which, if such existed, had better be passed over in silence, the Editor proceeds to

wreaths, and the armorial bearings exhibited in the centre. Mr. Baker was the most celebrated herald-painter in his day, in flower-painting.

As to the poor animals, exhibited as supporters of the shields, they resembled nothing in nature. The merit of correcting these caricatures belonged to Mr. Cotten. In all cases of monopoly, the benefits of competition are lost. The coach makers, or '*builders*,' as those lordly tradesmen have been pleased to dub themselves, having taken this formerly independent branch of the arts into their own hands, the herald-painter lost his consequence. Artists of eminent genius would not stoop to be treated like journeymen. And those into whose hands the business fell, having no credit to acquire, nor reputation to lose, had neither stimulant nor motive for aiming at perfection: hence the art dwindled down to its present miserable state.

give his readers a narrative of a first and hopeless passion cherished by the late King; the blighting of which, on the ground of public duty, is supposed, and was indeed capable, to have originated that dreadful malady, which soon afterwards displayed its irreparable ravages on his sensitive mind.

Shortly after his ascending the British Throne, the confidential advisers of the young King strongly importuned him to marry a *foreign Princess*; a proposal by no means agreeable to an ardent lover, whose affections were already settled upon a young English Lady, of very great beauty, high rank, and the most unexceptionable manners, disposition, and character. Very opposite statements have long since appeared respecting this transaction; and the Editor, in offering this addition to the number, assures his readers, that a Commander of the Knights of the order of St. Joachim, so often mentioned in the preceding annals, declared, in 1808, that however romantic it might appear, the royal amour alluded to was founded on real facts.

Horace Walpole (chapter vii. of his *Reminiscences*) has asserted, as an indubitable truth, that Prince Frederick, father of George III. paid his addresses to Lady Diana Spencer, grand-daughter of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, and that even the day was fixed for their being secretly married at the Lodge belonging to the Duchess in Windsor Great Park. Sir Levet Hansen, in 1808, affirmed, that he was assured by a gentleman who belonged to the Prince's household, that Frederick Prince of Wales used often to tell Prince George, as he was an English boy, he should, if he pleased, have an ENGLISH WIFE; observing, that by continually intermarrying with *German women*, the Royal Family would remain for ever *Germanized*, and distinct from the nation they governed. When it was urged by his courtiers, that such marriages might

prove prejudicial to the state, by conferring too great an ascendancy upon particular families, and thereby create jealousies and ill blood; he would reply, in a jocular way, by saying, he should have boys and girls enough to connect the Crown by blood with so *many* families, that no such danger could arise; and he would never force his sons or daughters to marry: adding, if they should like the Germans best, let them take their choice; but I would rather they should all marry into English families, and then their descendants will be of *British blood*, as well as *Britons born*. His Consort, having been reared in a petty Court, where *the people* and *the cattle* were held in equal estimation, and expected silently and submissively to submit to every mandate, heard with surprise and indignation those *alarming doctrines*, and energetically affirmed, that if she had power to prevent it, never should a child of her's marry into an *English family*. The sentiments expressed by the father, at a later period of his life, sunk deep into the mind of his son George; and when, in 1756, his Grandfather thought of marrying him to a Princess of Brunswick, he expressed to his mother his strong aversion to the marriage, who, having other views, supported her son's determination; and there ended that incipient project.

According to this verbal statement, for the accuracy of which the Editor cannot of course become pledged, GEORGE the THIRD, before he was twenty-one years of age, secretly made up his mind to adopt his Father's maxims, and select an English woman to share, as his Consort, the English Throne. His affections settled upon Lady SARAH LENOX. The enamoured youth was not slow in finding means to let the noble young damsel know of the pure and ardent affection his heart cherished towards her, and that his love was alike sincere and honourable: and if she deigned to listen to his suit, it was his inten-

tion, if he lived to ascend the Throne, that she should share it with him. With a frankness which reflects honour upon her memory, the amiable girl freely acknowledged that, had the rank of her lover been as far below her's as it was above, she could have met his advances without doing violence to her feelings; but, as the case stood, after having gratefully and humbly thanked the Prince for the proud distinction he had bestowed, and wishing him every happiness, she durst not act otherwise, than decline his flattering offer. Having fully made up his mind on the subject, this graceful denial only fanned the intense passion he felt, and perhaps did not wish to control; and so powerful were its effects, that it wrought a sudden and marked change in his pursuits. His dogs, his horses, his field-sports, were, for a time, wholly neglected, till, upon his reiterated assurances of the resolution he had long formed of marrying a British lady, and that he would rather relinquish the throne than his hope of attaining her for his bride, she cancelled the negative previously given, and they interchanged vows of love and constancy. Then, when his mind was released from the racking anguish of suspense, and he was received as a favoured lover, the youthful Prince resumed his former sports, though with diminished ardour; for the fair Lenox revelled in his virtuous bosom,—the queen of his soul,—the sole object of his youthful love.

In narrating these interesting Court anecdotes, Sir Levet Hansen spoke of them as sober facts; and, if his opinions were well grounded, neither the Duke of Richmond nor Lady Sarah Lenox merited those very coarse and unbecoming strictures in which the author of the *Memoirs of Queen Charlotte*, p. 217, has ventured to indulge. The Ex-Chamberlain smiled at the idea, that the reigning Family could have been disgraced by the Heir apparent marrying

the daughter of an English Peer; whilst, in the most full and positive terms, he exonerated the Duke from all knowledge of, or participation in, this amour; stating, that a cousin of his mother's was Governess to Lady Sarah, and also her confidant; and that her conduct was marked by the strictest propriety and decorum in every stage of the transaction,—when her hopes were lifted high, and an imperial crown seemed impending over her head,—and when, by a cruel reverse, the flattering prospects suddenly vanished, and love was made an offering to public duty.

Beset on every side with interested observers, it must have been a matter of great difficulty for the Prince to have carried on this intercourse undiscovered; yet this was accomplished through the medium of his brother Edward; and the lovers frequently met at the country-seat of a lady of rank, which stood in the tract of the Prince's rustic excursions. During these stolen interviews, which could not last long, the lover acquainted his intended bride that he had not, and should not, consult any of his courtiers; but, deferring the marriage till after he should have ascended the throne, plead his Father's promise, claim his natural right to select his partner for life, and throw himself upon the generosity of his people for support and approbation.

Mr. CRESET, private secretary to the Princess Dowager, and, according to Sir Levet Hansen's narrative, her chief household spy, was the person, who, suspecting the Prince's frequent visits to the Countess of ——— was connected with some intrigue, had the *credit* of having discovered this amatory intercourse and correspondence, which, before he reflected how much better a hand of his discovery he might have made by concealing it from all but the lovers, he babbled out to his inquisitive mistress. According to the narrator, the

Princess Dowager was affected no less powerfully than if she had been apprised of the sudden death of her eldest son. She had for some time been suspicious that the Prince was deeply engaged in an amour, but her pride repelled the idea that he had already plighted his faith to raise an English lady to be the partner of his throne! Rage, indignation, scorn, dismay, each by turns assailed her agitated bosom; yet her usual caution did not forsake her, and though the forbearance cost her a severe pang, the Princess sent Creset to summon the Earl of Bute to her presence, before she ventured upon any attempt to avert a blow, alike fatal to all her ambitious projects, and intolerably humiliating to her pride-choaked mind. Lord Bute was scarcely less surprised than the Princess, or less alarmed. He saw all the dangers which surrounded them, and taught the passion-torn mother the necessity of subduing her feelings, and have recourse to *sap* and *mine* to effect that, in which he expressed his fullest confidence that all angry remonstrance would utterly fail. Convinced by his reasoning, and from habit submissive to opinions so gracefully and eloquently expressed, the Princess yielded to his better counsels, nothing doubting his fidelity or discretion; and thus, whilst the youthful lovers, lulled in a false security, enjoyed their present happiness, and confidently looked forward to a happy issue to their virtuous wishes,—silently, but rapidly, were the elements of that storm accumulating, which was destined to sever their fond hearts, and annihilate every flattering vision in which they were indulging.

Never at a loss for expedients to bring about any greatly desired end, the Earl of Bute called into action a few selected noblemen and ladies, upon whose prudence he could rely, to whom, partially and cautiously, he explained the uneasiness of the Princess Dowager on account of her eldest Son's

devotion to Lady Sarah Lenox, and her maternal fears lest the amour should end in the *dishonour* of the young damsel; not once alluding to the Prince having pledged his faith to the fair object of his love, and destined her to be his consort,—lest it should counteract their own projects, and raise up auxiliaries for the lovers, where she hoped to create enemies. To the credit of the Prince and his beloved, so great had been their discretion and self-command, that no one, except the few already alluded to, had the least idea of their innocent amour.

At the instigation of the Earl of Bute, the Duke of Richmond was visited by a succession of noble guests, whose presence occupied too much of Lady Sarah's time to permit of her meeting her royal lover as usual. Their intercourse was in consequence epistolary; and as neither of them had the smallest mistrust that their secret passion was known to the Princess, they consoled each other in the pleasing illusion, that the time for secrecy and constraint might shortly terminate. But when visit after visit was proposed, and Lady Sarah found herself insensibly, as it were, removed farther and farther from her lover, dark fears unbidden obtruded on her mind; and although she could perceive no visible traces of secret management, yet the *result* of the different domestic movements alarmed her fears, and suggested danger, without affording any clue to its source, or any means of prevention. During this period, the lovers were almost wholly debarred from correspondence; and by comparing dates, it seems, from the recollections of the men of ancient days, who were then in the service of the Royal Family, that the Prince was remarkably dejected, neglected his favourite animals and his rural sports, and sought out solitudes, wherein, perhaps, to give greater scope to his perturbed feelings, unobserved.

Sir Levet Hansen stated, that neither the Princess nor Lord Bute thought it advisable to intercept the

letters which passed between the lovers; "It was not (said he) any sentiment of delicacy by which they were deterred, but the dread of irreparably offending the noble-minded youth, and hurrying him to the consummation of the marriage they wrought so earnestly to avert." Such was the state of affairs, when the death of George II. took place; soon after which event, various of his ministers and counsellors strongly urged the young Monarch to take a consort, but neither his mother nor the Earl of Bute were the foremost to recommend this measure. Finding himself thus pressed, the King mentioned his Father's promise to Lord Bute, and asked him if he conceived any serious injury was likely to arise to the state, if he were to act as his parent had advised, and take an English lady for his bride? The dissembler appeared as if suddenly overwhelmed by the deepest grief and surprise; and he told his Sovereign, except a recantation of his faith, he could not call to mind any act so full of disastrous consequences, as that to which he had alluded. Impatient of further dissimulation, the King communicated to the Earl the deep affection he cherished towards Lady Sarah Lenox, the solemn engagements into which he had entered, and his fixed determination to exercise that natural right, which the meanest of his subjects possessed. The cautious politician saw clearly that every thing might be lost by ill-timed opposition; and finding that, piqued by the long-continued silence of Lady Sarah, the King had not taken any decisive step since the death of the old King, all he ventured to ask of the young Monarch was, to pause a given time before he committed himself irrecoverably; protesting, with many well-dissembled tokens of affectionate zeal, that if, at the end of that period, His Majesty's will should remain the same, that he would use all his interest to soothe the public mind, and prepare his mother for a stroke which

he pretended might break her heart. This was touching a chord that vibrated through every nerve. The young Prince turned pale, and said, "It is a sad alternative in which I am placed: the crown is not worth the sacrifice I am called upon to make. You say my mother's heart will break if I marry Lady Lenox; and so intensely do I love that lady, Sir, that I fear my mind would not be able to bear up against the shock. My mother's aversion is not rational, and I do not perceive that she ought to require this at my hands." As he spoke, his voice faltered, and tears trickled down his cheeks. At last the distressed lover gave his word as required, and during that interval, the pathetic entreaties and admonitions of the Princess Dowager, powerfully backed by the sedate and dignified expostulations of Lord BUTE, developing the necessity there was, if he aimed at the conscientious discharge of his public duty as a wise and virtuous MONARCH, to sacrifice his passions to the safety of his empire. Then he began to waver; and *then* his mother, and his private monitor, made such forcible appeals to his pride and generosity, that the young Prince, agreeing to be guided by their counsels, gave them his word of honour, that whatever it might cost him, he would make the great sacrifice required. He kept that word, although his heart was wrung with anguish. He passed, as it was said, a week in solitude, striving to master his feelings, and yield up his love! The letter he wrote to Lady Sarah Lenox, was represented by Sir Levet Hansen as teeming with the finest touches of passion. He candidly stated all that had occurred, and assured her, that no considerations whatever had the least influence upon his decision, except his sense of public duty, and his moral conviction, that, however painful the sacrifice demanded, it would be dishonourable in HIM to hesitate. In the interval, Lady Sarah's confidential friend, (a maternal rela-

tion to Sir Levet,) either by design or chance, obtained possession of a letter written by Lord BUTE, the contents of which, though guardedly composed, and the meaning obscurely expressed, gave the innocent victim of his machinations a full comprehension of the whole scheme. The shock was great; but a greater yet remained. This was the affecting letter alluded to, written by the King, and sent to her by a gentleman of his court, on whose honour and delicacy he relied. Although the blow was tempered by all that was tender and affectionate in language, and noble in sentiment, and offered a brother's love, where his fondest wishes yet combined with her undoubted claims, it still fell dreadfully heavy. The health of the amiable girl sunk under its pressure; but time and reflection had their usual influence, and after a few months' seclusion, Lady SARAH LENOX was able, not only to *forgive* the King, *but even to assist at his marriage with another!* Not so regarding Lord BUTE and the Princess Dowager, towards whom she felt the most intense hatred. The impression produced on the mind of the King, was answerable to the greatness of the love he cherished towards her, and gave new poignancy to his sorrows.

George III. was not a TANCRED; but still, if he had been conscious of the secret machinations which had operated so effectually in cutting off his intercourse with the object of his first love, it would probably have awakened such powerful feelings of resentment, as might have induced him to have banished Lord Bute for ever from his presence, and have liberated his mind from those shackles which his too ambitious mother had imposed. Infinitely to the credit of Lady Lenox, although she had detected the secret agency of Lord Bute and the Princess Dowager, she concealed her knowledge of their delinquency, that she might not wound the

bosom of her royal lover, whom she resigned in a manner becoming a lovely woman, worthy to have been his bride. After the death of the Princess Dowager of Wales, the veil was withdrawn, and the whole of the secret machinery exposed, by which the projected marriage had been prevented.

Such was the account given by Sir Levet Hansen, of this deep-rooted attachment of the King; to the disappointment of which passion he attributed, not alone the partial flashes of disordered intellect, which, in less than a year after his marriage, are said to have been but too perceptible to his Queen, and his nearest attendants, but also that profound piety and unfeigned reliance on the consolations of religion, by which he was henceforth so eminently distinguished. To assert that all the incidents are realities, would be presumptuous. The Editor merely transmits them to posterity, as he received them from the gentleman whose name has so often occurred in these pages.

CHAPTER XII.

Love and Politics.—Apparent Contradictions.—Independence of the Judges.—Joy of the Lawyers.—Political Strictures.—Frothy Oratory.—Machinations of Lord Bute.—Biographical Sketches of Charles Jenkinson.—Anecdotes.—Extracts from ‘the Diary.’—The King—Duke of Richmond—Lord Bute—Bubb Doddington.—A political Satyr.—The Mysteries of Borough-mongering displayed.—The Evils of an Oligarchy.—Rapid Changes.—Royal Declaration.—A celebrated Letter, written by a German Lady.—Original Translation.—Explanatory Notes.—Preliminaries to the ROYAL NUPTIALS.—Reminiscences of JOHN LOWE!

AT the commencement of the new year, a splendid, and of course, a crowded Court, was held at St. James's, at which, according to a periodical publication of the day, Lady Sarah Lenox was present; and what is more extraordinary or '*whimsical*,' as Horace Walpole expresses himself, this young woman had fortitude to appear in the course of this year, in the capacity of bride's maid, where she hoped to have shone as the bride! She was then complimented as the most beautiful in her person, tasteful in her dress, and graceful in manners, of all the ladies there assembled. In the same month, according to the letters of Horace Walpole, JANE SHORE was performed at Holland House, in which popular tragedy, Lady Sarah played the part of the unhappy mistress and faithless wife. The selection of this piece admits of the inference, that it was intended to operate as a beacon, and warn Lady Sarah to conquer her

attachment to a young, and handsome Monarch, by whom she was beloved! Where love and ambition entwined their powerful ligatures round her heart, this certainly was no easy task. The beautiful girl, according to Horace Walpole, *felt* most intensely the affecting character she had to imitate, and sustained the difficult part very ably. On this occasion, Charles James Fox played Lord Hastings. Lady Susan Strangeways took the next principal character. "The two girls (said Walpole) were delightful, and acted with so much nature and simplicity, that they appeared the very things they represented. Lady Sarah was more beautiful than you can conceive, and her very awkwardness gave an air of truth to the sham of the part, and the antiquity of the time, which was kept up by her dress, taken out of Montfaucon. Lady Susan was dressed from Jane Seymour. I was infinitely more struck with the last scene between the two women, than ever I was when I have seen it on the stage. When Lady Sarah was in white, with her hair about her ears, and on the ground, no Magdalen by Corregio was half so lovely and expressive."

These incidents unquestionably appear inconsistent with the narrative derived twelve years since, in Sweden, from the Ex-Chamberlain of the Court of Modena; but, as dates were not communicated, if no other and more solid objections can be produced, this apparent collision of statements is not fatal to its claim of authenticity.

There is no event of deep interest recorded, respecting the young Sovereign, in January, 1761; nothing beyond the praises and predictions contained in the Poet Laureat's Ode, the King's visit to the Chapel Royal on the 6th, and making the usual offering of gold, myrrh, and frankincense; the change of mourning on the 16th; His Majesty's progress to the House of Peers on the 22d. Probably at the request of his mother, the King, on

the 29th, stood sponsor for the infant son of the Earl and Countess of Ashburnham: the Princess Dowager of Wales, and the Duke of Newcastle, were the other sponsors. The child was called George, in honour of his royal godfather.

One of the most important acts of his early years, as reigning Monarch, was that of rendering the Judges so far independent of the Crown, that in future their commissions should not terminate on its demise, but, in case of good behaviour, be considered as perpetual. On the 3d of March, the King went to the House of Peers, and proposed this novel measure.* Its wisdom, as regards the due and impartial administration of justice, in cases where *the prerogatives of the Crown are involved*, is much less obvious than its *policy*, if really intended by the Earl of Bute, as it was asserted by his opponents, to neutralize the value of the trial by jury, and by rendering the Judges independent of the people, enable them, if so inclined, to become auxiliaries to the ministers of the crown, with less risk of penal consequences. In making these ob-

* The celebrated *itinerant* Hibernian orator, Counsellor PHILLIPS, in a recent rhapsody, delivered at SLIGO on the 10th of April, 1820, alluding to the *independence* of the Bench of Judges, spake thus: "The *independence* of the Bench, *deprived* the executive of a powerful and possible instrument, and vested the *rights*, the *privileges*, and the property of the people, in the integrity of a new UNASSAILABLE TRIBUNAL." What a world of nonsense is contained in these few words! Surely, the rights of the people still remain vested in themselves; and if they have no better advocates for their '*privileges*' than those alluded to by this flower of eloquence, desperate indeed are their hopes, and gloomy their prospects. As a *lawyer*, the talkative gentleman had abundant reason to speak thus pompously; but the disinterested reader will not forget, that should a *Reform* take place, and the experience of the last sixty years induce another Parliament to abolish the *perpetuality* of our Judges, this same gentleman, without effort or hesitation, could speak ten times as much to prove the excellence of the change, and the magnitude of the evils to which the innovation of 1761 had given birth.

servations, not the smallest imputation is intended to rest upon the motives of the young Sovereign. He is entitled to the fullest credit for pure and patriotic intentions. Although this measure has been so universally imputed to the King's spontaneous will, the fact is more than dubious. Up to that moment when his jealous and intractable Grandsire expired, the King had been kept at such a distance from the persons and councils of the state ministers, that he could have had no practical experience; and it would be irrational to suppose, amidst all the whirling pageantry and sober dissipation of a new-born reign, the royal youth could, in sixteen weeks' time, have sprung up a grave, experienced, and accomplished lawgiver. A number of strong, circumstantial points of evidence, combine to point out the Earl of Bute as the first mover of this expedient, who did not, perhaps, apprise the King of his latent views, but shewed only its white side to his royal master. A calm survey of the jesuitical policy of that *sap* and *mine* politician, leads to this conclusion. The exulting hopes of a nation, weary of *German* etiquette, *German* kings, and *German* state-craft, and in possession of a Monarch who had so emphatically expressed his pride in being a BRITON BORN, naturally interfered with *their* judgment, and prepared them to applaud any thing and every thing that came from their young Monarch; a feeling which was amiable and pardonable;—but what censure can be too severe for a House of Commons, which, knowing nothing of the character of the new King, but from *hear-say*, and that from the most suspicious of sources, passed the law required, almost by acclamation! Those courteous representatives gave no time to the cool and thinking part of the community to canvass the principles, or expose that secret and dangerous support, which a corrupt administration might, in future

times, derive from the impunity it might throw over time-serving Judges. In all cases of delegated power, whether regal or juridical, the best preservative of the trust reposed, next to innate honesty, is the dread of ignominy and punishment, in case of delinquency. Unquestionably this bill has had the effect of diminishing that dread. From this period, the proud spirit of the British Bar, which dated its rise from the fall of the Stuarts, has gradually, but incessantly, declined; whilst the political subserviency of the Bench is generally believed to have still more conspicuously advanced. At the present hour, the Chief Justiceship of the Court of King's Bench is esteemed the most profitable office in the gift of the Crown. That the Bench should be supplied with the most eminent lawyers of the day, is an obvious truism; and it would not be just or reasonable to wish, that any advocate should suffer in his fortune by being called to the Bench. An addition to their salaries was requisite, and also a bill for the future regulation of their juridical emoluments. The office of a Judge requires the highest degree of wisdom and experience, combined with great physical powers; and as those qualities are necessarily of transient existence, ten years, on an average, is the longest space an ordinary life affords of real efficiency for the due performance of its laborious duties. Since this innovation, we have seen Judges tottering to their seats, feeble in body, irritable in temper, sinking under the infirmities of age or of dissipation, unable to discharge their duties; yet clinging to the last possible moment to their stations. This is a very great evil, immediately flowing from an appointment *for life*: but a much more serious one exists in *another* change, too obvious to escape general notice and reproach, and too delicate to be named with safety in 1820. A change which, in all human probability, it was the secret object of Lord Bute's

policy to produce: admitting which, *his duplicity* does not implicate the King, nor at all compromise his honour or sincerity. Sir Levet Hansen's father was a *lawyer*, and he taught his son those sentiments which are expressed, p. 180. Amongst the many anecdotes communicated by that Knight, was this: "A place-hunting pluralist, who had been very active in his efforts to promote the electioneering interests of Sir Robert Walpole, took occasion, at a public dinner of the ministers, to remind the premier how much he stood indebted to the church. 'Certainly, my dear Doctor,' said the good-natured premier, 'I have received some valuable services from the sons of the church: but *the lawyers*, Sir, have completely distanced you churchmen. You parsons are forced to keep up some appearance of consistency; but a lean, half-starved, political lawyer, is infinitely more keen, more active, more every thing that a minister wants. They are wild, noisy, and troublesome, till they are *noticed*; but when they are *tamed*, they at once become our most trusty and useful of instruments.'"

On the 19th of March, the King went to the House of Lords; and having given the royal assent to the Bill which fixed the Judges on the Bench during life, and also to various others, His Majesty dissolved the Parliament: writs were immediately issued for new elections. Happy had it been for posterity, if the Sovereign had then *commanded*, that no writs should have gone forth to thirty or forty of the most notoriously rotten Boroughs; and instead, had added to the number of members for Middlesex, Surry, Yorkshire, &c. and have called upon the rising towns, such as Sheffield, Leeds, Birmingham, Manchester, &c. to return members to Parliament, extending the right of voting to every housekeeper paying direct taxes to the state.

The young Monarch did not, however, venture on this bold but wholesome design; and he was

lauded to the skies for an imputed declaration, that no money should, on that occasion, be taken out of the treasury to influence elections. It was said that he exclaimed, ‘*I’ll be tried by my country!*’ An expression which, if truly stated, amounts to an admission that, on former occasions, money had been taken out of the public purse to be employed in the cause of political corruption, and for the subversion of public liberty! Let it have arisen from whatever source it might, it added greatly to the popularity of the Monarch. Amongst many poetical effusions contained in the periodical publications, was the following, *viz.*

“Tried by your country! To your people’s love,
 Amiable Prince, so soon appeal?
 Stay till the tender sentiments improve,
 Ripening to gratitude from zeal!
 Years hence (yet, ah! too soon) shall Britain see
 The trial of thy virtue past:
 Who could foretell that your first wish would be,
 What all believe will be your last?”

At this period, for the last time, recourse will be had to the pages of ‘*the Diary,*’ for those illustrations of court policy, which are no where else to be found.

On the 25th of October, its author sent *a letter* to Lord Bute, and on the 30th, he says laconically, “*I kissed the young King’s hand.*” Thus it appears, his first movement was towards the BUTE, the second towards the King; a tolerably correct scale whereby to estimate their relative importance in his calculating mind. On the 14th of November, this ‘*busy-body*’ saw the King in his closet; and afterwards waited on the Princess at Leicester House! On the 18th, the Duke of Newcastle sent Mr. Ellis to consult with him, relative to the election at Weymouth. “*I deferred giving an immediate answer,*” says the trading politician, no doubt to secure the *peerage* for which he had been so many

years in chase, as part of the price of the Boroughs he had for sale. November 19th, he wrote to Lord Bute, desiring him "to settle *the answer* I should send to the Duke of Newcastle." On the 20th, most likely in pursuance of Lord Bute's orders, the *Borough-monger* said to Mr. Ellis, the Duke's confidential messenger, "*I beg to be excused troubling his Grace, because my interest at Weymouth is engaged to gentlemen, whom, I cannot doubt, will be agreeable to him, BECAUSE I HAVE reason to believe they will be agreeable to the KING.*" "On the 22d, (continues he,) Lord Bute sent to desire to see me at my house in Pall Mall. *He staid two hours with me: we had much serious and confidential talk: he gave me repeated assurances of his most generous friendship, and FRESH instances of the KING'S BENIGNITY, by His Majesty's order.*" Exactly a week afterwards, the following curious specimen of the dirty intrigues then in process for the expulsion of Mr. PITT and his colleagues, was recorded by the pen of this venal political trader: viz.

"Lord BUTE came to me by appointment, and staid a great while. I pressed him much to take the Secretary's office, and provide otherwise for Lord Holderness. He hesitated some time, and then said, '*If that is the only difficulty, it can easily be removed. Lord Holderness is ready, at my desire, to QUARREL with his fellow-ministers, and go to the KING, and throw up, in seeming anger; and then I may come in, without seeming to displace any body.*'"

By this execrable conspiracy, the young and inexperienced King was intended to be deceived, and imposed upon, whilst a load of undeserved odium was to be thrown on Mr. PITT and his colleagues, created by groundless imputations, the most elaborate falsehoods, and perfidious machinations. Even the callous, case-hardened Doddington, seemed ashamed of this cowardly, mean, and sneaking mode of procedure, as he added, "*I own the expedient did not please me.*"

The death of George II. afforded a favourable moment for those old Tory families to appear at Court, who had hitherto refrained, on account of dislike to the reigning Monarch, and attachment to the exiled dynasty. Amongst the highest rank of those were seen the Litchfields, Berkeleys, &c.; and mingled with those of inferior consequence, whose fortunes may be traced to, and dated from, this æra, was Mr. CHARLES JENKINSON, the father to the present First Lord of the Treasury, and the son of that JENKINSON, whose name occurs p. 172, &c. as one of the Tories, secretly but actively engaged in the cause of the '*legitimate*' heir to the throne, prior to their last great effort in 1745.* This gentleman then held the humble office of private Secretary to the Earl of Bute, at Kew, by means of which situation he ingratiated himself with Mr. CRESET, who bore, at Saville House, the appellation of '*toad-eater*' to the Princess Dowager. By this means, the supple young gentleman became known to the Princess, before his patron had recommended him to royal notice. He literally '*ascended by creeping*.' He was the secret channel of communication between Lord Bute and a cer-

* A humorous old Doctor of Divinity, then the '*father*' of Oxford University, who resided in the neighbourhood of, and was thoroughly acquainted with, the Jenkinsons, used to say, that the old man having failed in his expectations of overturning the House of Brunswick by force of arms, had placed his son *Charley* under Lord BUTE, in the hope that, by inoculating the young Prince (George III.) with Tory doctrines, to effect his ruin, and the expulsion of his House. According to the statements of the venerable and intelligent old gentleman, his (the Doctor's) father used occasionally to dine at the table of the Jenkinson alluded to, who used to repeat, upon all occasions, the most scandalous anecdotes and defamatory tales, reflecting upon the reigning family, whom he affected to hold in abhorrence: Doctor — also reproached his son Charles for alleged perfidy and ingratitude to a gentleman named COPE, accusing him of having basely treated, and cruelly betrayed, a confiding friend and generous benefactor.

tain great personage. After the former had been driven from his post as a visible and ostensible minister, this same person was accused of having secretly undermined his old master, and laid on his ruin, the foundation of his own official greatness!

To resume the thread of the narrative, which this digression has interrupted: the next remarkable incident is a statement given of a transaction, in which the King, the Duke of Richmond, and the Earl of Bute, were the principal actors. When '*the Diary*' was shewn to the Duke of Richmond, feeling himself aggrieved, that nobleman drew up a counter-statement, wherein there appears strong indications of an *indirect* line of conduct adopted by the Sovereign, but which attached alone to Lord Bute! To give fair play to the journalist and his opponent, both statements are subjoined; and first, '*the Diary*:'

"The Duke of Richmond resigned the Bedchamber, which *he had just asked for*, because Lord Fitzmaurice was put before his brother. I had several friends to dine with me, when the Duke of Richmond's affair was much canvassed. Lord Halifax said, that the Duke had assured the person from whom his Lordship heard it, that the King sent and offered his Grace the Bedchamber; *which is not true*.

"The whole affair, as I heard it from Lord Bute, was this.—The Duke, after talking very offensively of the Scotch, on the promotion of Sir Harry Erskine, *asked*, in a private audience of the King, to be of his Bedchamber: His Majesty gave him a civil, but not a decisive answer, and acquainted Lord Bute with it, who told His Majesty, that the Duke's quality and his age, made him a very proper servant to be about his person; upon which Lord Bute was ordered to let the Duke know, that the King *accepted his service*; which Lord Bute performed, and then mentioned to the King, how his Grace's behaviour about Sir Harry Erskine was particularly offensive to him (Bute.) The King was displeased that he was not informed of it before; and Lord Bute said that he thought the Duke a proper *servant* for His Majesty, and as such recommended him, but not as a *friend*. The Duke came to see Lord Bute, to thank him for his kind offices, and to *disown* all political connections with Mr. Fox. Lord Bute said the

King had no kind of objection to Mr. Fox, and that he himself had a great regard for him personally: and then Lord Bute fairly told the Duke, that the King knew how he had talked of Sir Harry Erskine's affair, and of him (Bute) in particular; which the Duke endeavoured to *palliate*, and said it had been much aggravated."

Indignant at this narrative, on the 21st of June, 1783, the Duke of Richmond,—the great advocate for PARLIAMENTARY REFORM,—sent a letter, addressed to Mr. Henry Penruddock Wyndham, through the editor of '*the Diary*,' of which document, the following contains all that is material:

"Soon after His Majesty's accession, Sir Harry Erskine, who had been removed from the army by the late King, on account of his attachment to the Prince of Wales, his grandson, was restored to it by His present Majesty, with the same rank he would have had if he had continued in the service; by this means he came in again over my head. This induced me to desire an audience, in which I respectfully represented to His Majesty, that, as I had particularly attached myself to the military, and had sought service upon all occasions, I was in hopes no person would have been put over me. But finding, from His Majesty's answer, that Sir Harry Erskine's removal in the late reign was owing to his attachment to His Majesty when Prince of Wales, and that he had *then* made him a promise* to restore him to his rank when he should come to the Crown, I most cheerfully submitted, and begged

* This letter from the Duke of Richmond, besides displaying the personal character of the late King in a very graceful attitude, elucidates the *Buteian* system, of impelling, by ungentlemanly and unbecoming expedients, certain popular characters whom he feared, to accept places or pensions; using the Royal influence and the strong feelings that influence generally excites, to carry their end; and then, by indirect or open insults, to weary and disgust those obnoxious characters to resign, when their popularity had become obscured. This appears to have been the source of the conduct adopted towards the Duke of Richmond, who dwindled into a discontented *Bedchamber* Lord; and next, and more successfully, the same *ruse* was played off on Mr. PITT, who was cut up at the roots in the full luxuriance of his fame, emasculated and *neutralized* by a pension and a peerage!

His Majesty to believe, that nothing could be further from my wish than that he should break his word on any account, and more particularly on mine. His Majesty then asked me, how it happened that I had never thought of any other line than the military? My answer was, that I did not chuse to put myself under an obligation to the Duke of Newcastle, or even to my brother-in-law, Mr. Fox, being unwilling to connect myself with any minister. His Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously all I said.

“Being present at the next Levee-day, Lord Bute took me aside, and told me the King was much pleased with my behaviour in the closet; that His Majesty had observed my saying that I had never thought of any line but the military, and had ordered him to *sound me*.* I perfectly well recollect the expression, whether I should have any objection to a civil employment? Lord Bute added, that he thought the best way of ‘*sounding*,’ was at once to tell me the whole: that the King thought of making me a Lord of the Bedchamber; that I might know it would not be proper for the King to make a formal offer, but that, if I was disposed to have it, I might ask it, and he could assure me it would not be refused. I thanked His Majesty, and desired twenty-four hours to consider of it. I then asked for it in form, and was immediately appointed.

“A few days after I had kissed hands, news arrived of the battle of Closter Campen, in Germany, in which the hereditary Prince of Brunswick, who commanded there, had been worsted. Lord Shelburne (then Lord Fitzmaurice) had been present at this battle as a volunteer. Lord Downe commanded the 25th regiment, and received the wounds of which he afterwards died. My brother, Lord George Lennox, commanded a battalion of British grenadiers; he had been in the hottest part of the action, and although he had not the good

* Those emphatical words are printed in italics in the Appendix to ‘*the Diary*.’ Their obvious tendency goes to throw a tinge of doubleness upon the King, which is increased tenfold by Lord Bute’s affected disdain of *indirect* courses, at the price of his master’s honour. But after the scandalous expedient to which the minion expressed his willingness to have recourse, whereby to obtain admission into the Cabinet, no candid or just mind will hesitate to acquit the King, and rather believe that Lord Bute played false on all sides: making the King believe that Richmond had *asked* for the office; and persuading the Duke, that it was *indirectly* tendered by His Majesty!

luck to be hurt, his clothes were shot through in several places, and he had the peculiar satisfaction of remaining to the very last with the Hereditary Prince in the wood, which was the scene of action; and when all his people were either killed or driven off, he, with a Captain M'Lane, actually carried off in their arms the Hereditary Prince, who had no horse or attendants, and who, from the wound he had received in his leg, was unable to walk. Lord Fitzmaurice and Lord Downe were both junior Lieutenant-Colonels to Lord George Lennox; but His Majesty was advised to reward their services in this action, by giving them the rank of Colonel over his head.

"I thought it my duty to represent to His Majesty, how great a mortification it must be to my brother, after having much distinguished himself during the whole war, to be not only neglected, but to see his juniors rewarded, by being put over his head, for their services in this battle, where his services had been so remarkable.

"My representations, however, proved ineffectual; upon which I resigned the Bedchamber, a fortnight after I had received it.

"I afterwards communicated to Lord Bute the step I had taken; but have not the smallest recollection of his Lordship's mentioning to me 'my having talked offensively of the Scotch, on the promotion of Sir Harry Erskine, and of him (Bute) in particular.' On the contrary, his Lordship was very civil to me, and expressed his regret that I had not first communicated to him my intention of resigning, as possibly some means might have been found out to satisfy me about my brother, and have prevented my quitting the Bedchamber.

"But the point I am most anxious to clear up, is Mr. Dodgington's assertion, that the account which Lord Halifax said I had given, 'that the King *sent* and offered me the Bedchamber, *is not true.*' The account I have given will shew whether Lord Bute was not sent to me; and whether the manner in which his Lordship expressed the orders he had received to *sound me*, do not, in the language of plain dealing, amount to *an offer of the Bedchamber from the King*. It is true I did ask it in form, (I believe by letter to Lord Bute;) but this was subsequent to, and in consequence of, his orders to *sound me*, and not at the audience I had on the business of Sir Harry Erskine's affair, which was previous; for I do very positively declare, that till Lord Bute mentioned* the Bed-

* This public averment, which, most probably, must have reached the King, is entitled to implicit credit, and it unfolds a

chamber to me in that conversation, as an idea of the King's, it had not entered into my thoughts, which were never turned to that sort of employment.

"The difference of whether I first asked for, or was offered this place, is very immaterial, except as to the charge Mr. Doddington brings against me, of having said *what is not true*. For, although it was very flattering to me to be thought of by His Majesty to be about his person, I had not the silly impertinence to be above asking for that honour, if my turn of mind had led me that way; but I cannot feel indifferent as to a fact, which I am stated to have misrepresented."

This plain, unvarnished narrative, proves how capable Mr. Doddington, or Lord Bute were, to say '*the thing that was not*:' how little either of them hesitated to compromise the Sovereign; whilst it shews, in the clearest, strongest manner, that whilst the personal conduct of the King was consistent with the noble simplicity of his character, that of his unworthy minion was deeply imbued with perfidy and meanness, in having thus basely subjected his Sovereign to undeserved reproach.—'*The Diary*' proceeds thus:

December 27.—Mr. Bubb Doddington "had a long conversation with Lord Bute about Lord Egmont, whose election *I undertook to secure, if the KING COMMANDED ME, on his being refused the peerage.*" Further down, in the same day's entry, this BOROUGH-MONGER writes: "Lord Bute said there was very little encouragement, and that the KING was very little disposed towards Lord Egmont; and asked me what I would do in his election? I replied, 'THROW HIM OUT.' Lord BUTE seemed to think it very hard that he should be in neither House. *Perceiving that*, I said, if the KING

system, very like '*debasing the genius of the nation*,' thus artfully to entrap a single-hearted, brave soldier, with a view to clip the wings of his popularity: at the same time, if the Duke did not doubt the veracity of Lord Bute, he could not avoid in his heart condemning the conduct of his Sovereign.

would keep him out of the House of Lords, and he (BUTE) desired, *I would SECURE* his election at *Bridgewater*." Here then is this non-descript Satyr seen, blowing hot and cold with the same breath. It is really a disgusting task to trace his devious path, although such expositions are most essential to display the hidden sources of the '*consuming system*,' by which the pillars of the British Empire have been undermined, its liberties impaired, and her resources dilapidated.

On the 2d of January, 1761, these complotters, DODDINGTON and BUTE, had a meeting, and a long consultation ensued; but such was their mutual distrust, they dared not be explicit, and came to no decision. It seems those worthies '*agreed upon getting runners, and to settle what (lies, perhaps) he (BUTE) would disperse!*' On the 9th, the journalist appears to have dined at Sir Francis Dashwood's, where Lord BUTE joined him. At the close of some observations relative to the impolicy of the continental war, he added, "I had written, and afterwards I mentioned to Lord BUTE, Lord Talbot's son-in-law to succeed Boscawen, who was dying. He was sorry I had not thought of it sooner, but he had agreed to fill his place by a *removal* out of the Board of Trade. I tried to get the *Jewel-Office* for him, by an arrangement for Lord Lyttleton, but in vain. WE WISHED TO HAVE SOME COFFEE-HOUSE SPIES, but *I did not know how to contrive it.*" This cabal met on the 16th, when the journalist, if his own word may be taken, said to Lord BUTE, speaking of the army, "*There is something so servile in the education of an officer, that if he finds out what you desire to hear, you may be sure of hearing nothing else.*" A too general truth; and very singular that it should be found in such company! Another meeting between those hollow courtiers took place on the 2d of February, when BUTE appears to have been '*dissatisfied*,' because

the public were *not* satisfied with the pending advance on the price of porter!*

On this occasion, the following mysteries of Borough-mongering traffic took place; which, on account of its importance, the Editor gives in its *primitive* dialogue form, *viz.* the DODDINGTON, and the BUTE!

Doddington.—"Does your Lordship know why the Parliament is kept on so long?"

Bute.—"I think it is better for *him* (the King), as *his friends* will have the more time to look about them. The Duke of Newcastle is desirous to have it end."†

Doddington.—"Have you settled the new Parliament with the Duke?"

Bute.—"I have not seen the Duke some days; I suppose I soon shall: he will bring his *lists* with him. *What are ABSOLUTELY the KING'S BOROUGHs, the KING will NAME to; but where the CROWN has only an INFLUENCE—as by the CUSTOMS, EXCISE, &c. he* (the Duke) *cannot be refused the disposition of, while he stays in.* I told ANSON that room must be made for Lord PARKER. He (Anson) replied, '*all are engaged.*' *What! my Lord* (said Bute), *the KING'S Admiralty Boroughs full, and the KING not acquainted with it.* ANSON seemed disconcerted, and knew not what to say."

All comments on this '*peep behind the curtain,*'

* The old servants, whose '*reminiscences*' reflect more credit on the Royal Family, than those of the learned and elegant trifler, Walpole, affirm that one pot of the best London porter, at the commencement of the reign of George III. was worth *three* of that which the *chemical porter-brewers*, as they called them, drenched the populace with in 1810; and twice as strong as the *improved* commodity of 1820.

† It is worthy of remark, that at this time Lord Bute was not a Cabinet minister; indeed, the only *thing* to which, constitutionally, he was *minister*, or ought, according to the title of his office, to have administered, was '*the King's stole!*'

are superfluous. It clearly demonstrates, that the House of Commons *has been, in times past*, debased by nominal and spurious members, who were introduced, sometimes by Peers, and sometimes, if this journalist is to be believed, by the ministers of the crown; and even the Monarch himself has also usurped that power. King Charles lost his head, for various acts of lawless despotism; for which dethronement, and perpetual banishment, would have been just and appropriate punishment. No kind of imputation rests upon George III. from these *ex-parte* statements, since, no doubt, when the minion (Lord Bute) spoke to ANSON about the *King's* Admiralty Boroughs, he meant the ruling Borough-mongers; of whom Lord *Bute* aspired to become the head. But where is the difference, in point of crime, between forcibly taking away honest and upright members from the House, or obtruding by *means*,—of which WILFUL PERJURY must inevitably form a part,—fictitious and enslaved members, who dare not be honest; but are, by previous contract, bound to vote as their masters command? Of those two extremes, the use of the army, in seizing upon the upright and honest members, and plunging them into the dungeons of a despot, would, by comparison, form the *minor* offence; because, by such deadly pollutions, not only is the presence of honest members lost, but their posts filled by base *counterfeits*, whose tainted votes will ever be employed to cover and protect the corruption to which alone they owe their legislative functions. To this Stygian spring, all the great oppressive evils under which the British nation suffers, are imputable. These extracts prove the existence of a secret, anomalous power, no where seen, but every where felt,—unknown to our Constitution, yet strong enough to subvert its wholesome influence,—to oppress the Crown, and rob the Monarch of his just prerogative,—to degrade, to plunder,

insult and mock, the people,—to control the executive and corrupt the legislative, power,—to produce war or peace, as suited its own selfish purpose,—in short, sufficiently strong to attempt to wield the sceptre even in the Sovereign's hand, and trample upon Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights. Such is this modern Python, that has been nourished by the sacrifice of morals, wealth, and liberty. A monster of modern growth, but Titanian power,—more deadly in his ravages than the fabled Python of the ancients; for *that* only asked the *bodies* of mankind, but *this* debases the genius, and pollutes all that is valuable in life, which it has not capacity to extirpate.

The Danes, in the seventeenth century, finding themselves intolerably oppressed by a corrupt, iniquitous, merciless oligarchy, took the desperate resolution of entailing slavery on their posterity, to obtain vengeance on their merciless tyrants. They threw themselves at the foot of the throne; and having enabled Frederick the Third to enslave the hated oligarchs, and bow their necks to the common yoke, *despotism became established by law!* Lord Bute was the creature and the agent of an odious British oligarchy, whose baleful presence imbittered the first moments of the reign of GEORGE the *Third*; was the hidden source of every act incompatible with the moral purity of that great and good Sovereign; or at variance with the constitutional rights of his people. Its baleful influence, at one time, hurried him into measures so deeply unpopular, as to shake the throne to its foundations: at another, it threw such obstacles in the way of the executive power, that the wheels of government moved dissonantly. Change succeeded to change; and still the seat of the disease lay out of the reach of the virtuous Monarch, or his indignant people. These points are essential to be maturely considered and understood by every per-

son who would duly learn to appreciate the character of the REIGN of GEORGE the Third; for they formed the great operative cause of every cloud that has since obscured the disk of monarchy, and of every storm which has shaken the Throne.*

Resuming the narrative of events in which the Monarch was personally concerned, the first in

* It is stated, by a writer cotemporary with these events, that, in the FIRST SEVEN YEARS of the (late) King's reign, there were

Two—Lord Chancellors.

Five—Lord Keepers of the Privy Seal.

Once—The Seal in Commission.

Thirteen—Lords of the Treasury.

Six—Chancellors of the Exchequer.

Five—Lord Chamberlains.

Two—Vice Chamberlains.

Three—Grooms of the Stole.

Thirty-one—Lords of the Bedchamber.

Four—Keepers of the Great Wardrobe.

Four—Groom Porters.

Two—Lord Stewards of the Household.

Five—Comptrollers

Five—Treasurers } of the Household.

Five—Cofferers

Twelve—Clerks of the Board of Green Cloth.

Three—Treasurers of the Chamber.

Five—Masters of the Horse.

Eleven—Secretaries of State.

Seven—First Lords of the Admiralty.

Twenty-three—Puisne Lords of the Admiralty.

Eight—First Lords }

Eighteen—Puisne Lords } of Trade and Plantations.

Nine—Postmasters-General.

Four—Paymasters

Three—Treasurers } of the Navy.

Three—Secretaries of War.

Five—Keepers of the Privy Seal of Scotland, and

Eight—Vice Treasurers of Ireland.

“A degree of fluctuation sufficient to distract even the most powerful mind; and I am fully convinced (said Mr. Craig) if it had not been for his religion, the consciousness of his duty to his country, and the sustaining affection of his incomparable wife, he must have sunk under his accumulating trials.”—(Vide Memoir of Sophia Charlotte, Queen of Great Britain, p. 137.)

order is a splendid installation of the new Knights of the Bath, which took place on the 28th of May: on which occasion, the *Master Cook* of the King's kitchen, wearing a *white apron*, and carrying a chopping knife or cleaver in his hand, formally repeated to each of the newly-created Knights the following admonition, *viz.*

“*Sir,—You know what a great oath you have taken, which, if you keep it, will be great honour to you; but if you break it, I shall be compelled, by my office, to hack off your spurs from your heels.*”

On the 30th, a fine stud of cream-coloured, and other Hanoverian horses, were landed at the Tower wharf, for the King's use.*

The first anniversary birth-day, as KING, was celebrated on the 4th of June, 1761, with all the lustre and enthusiasm which the undivided love of a great and free people were capable of imparting. His Court was peculiarly magnificent. The dresses were chiefly British manufactures. The Princess Dowager and her blooming daughters, their aunt the Princess Amelia, and most of the ladies present, were dressed in magnificent and costly silks and brocades. The Park and Tower guns were fired. A superb and general illumination took place at night, which was general in all the large towns in the three kingdoms; and a grand display of fire-works was played off, in honour of the young Sovereign, in St. James's-square, Leicester-fields, on Tower Hill, at Kew, and at Richmond.

* The Author was informed in Sweden, in 1808, by the King's Master of the Horse, at Gripsholm Palace, that Adolf-Frederick, the reigning monarch, father of Gustavus III. and godfather to George III. sent a fine stud of horses from Sweden to Hanover; some of which were sent to England, and, by possibility, might have formed part of those now imported.

The wise and virtuous Prince having made a sacrifice of his first love, and resigned, pure and unsullied, the beautiful and noble virgin whom he almost adored, it was, perhaps, a matter of comparative indifference to him, what other maiden was to share his throne and bed. All the influence of his mother was exerted to induce her son to select a near relation of her's for his bride. "Madam, (said he, mournfully,) you have controlled the natural current of my affections, and prevented my marrying whom alone I can love: rest satisfied with this sacrifice, and do not urge me further."* The Princess was silenced. Her son acted as a monarch ought, but he felt as a lover. Soon after the death of the late Queen, '*The Times*,' amongst many very valuable biographical sketches and anecdotes, stated, as an historical fact, that Colonel Greame was sent by the King to look out, among the royal nurseries of Germany, for a young Princess fit to become the King's bride, which, as all the world knows, ended in his union with a young Princess, born and bred in a petty and obscure court, who had little else to recommend her except an unspotted character, a gentle, yielding disposition, a docile temper, a tolerable figure, and a good state of health. When the selection was finally made, an eminent prelate, who enjoyed the personal respect and confidence of the King, was sent to Mecklenburg, prior to the formal demand of the young Princess in marriage, to acquaint her of the real state of the King of England's heart, and that his affections were not at his own disposal; but, if the Princess Charlotte could make up her mind to accept of a husband thus unhappily circumstanced, to assure her, upon his honour as a gentleman, and his faith as a Christian, it should be his peculiar study to CONQUER HIMSELF, and make up, by

* Related by Count Piper, a Swedish Nobleman.

every kind and gentle attention to her virtues, for the absence of *that* which he had not the power to bestow. The evenness of the temper of this Princess; her very submissive demeanour in the household of her parents; evinced a mind calculated to bend to circumstances, and likely to conciliate the King, by studying his temper, and adopting all his wishes as her own. A truly great and delicate mind, might, after such an avowal, have declined his hand: that it was accepted by Charlotte of Mecklenburg, is no reproach to her character. Of the native goodness of the young Monarch's heart, she had heard abundant testimony; his person was handsome, if not elegant; and his rank as a Monarch, equal to any in Europe. She acted, therefore, like a sensible girl, and wisely secured his hand at the first offer.*

Passing over the various incidents attendant upon each previous stage of the negociation: on the 8th of July, 1761, George III. met his Privy Council, to whom, with feelings much easier conceived than described, he made the following important communication:

“ Having nothing so much at heart as to procure the welfare and happiness of my people, and to render the same stable and permanent to posterity, I have, ever since my acces-

* “ The Princess Dowager of Wales anxiously wished to see the King married to a female of her own family; and, by *her directions*, negotiations for the purpose had been begun; but it appearing that the lady in question was subject to a complaint that prevailed in the family, (the scrofula, or king's evil,) the matter was dropped. After the King's choice was announced, the disappointed lady was heard to say, contemptuously, ‘ *And will they make that little UGLY girl QUEEN of England?*’ This observation was carried to Strelitz, and told to the envied Princess, who took no notice of it, and seemed to have forgotten it entirely; but when she was handed ashore at Harwich by Lord Harcourt, and had set her foot on British ground, she turned to him with a gracious smile, and asked, ‘ *What will the Princess of Saxe-Gotha say now!*’”—Vide CRAIG's Memoir of the Queen, p. 547.

sion to the throne, turned my thoughts towards the choice of a Princess for my Consort; and I now, with great satisfaction, acquaint you, that after the fullest information, and mature deliberation, I am come to the resolution to demand in marriage the Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg Strelitz, a Princess distinguished by every eminent virtue, and amiable endowment; whose illustrious line has constantly shewn the firmest zeal for the Protestant religion, and a particular attachment to my Family. I have judged proper to communicate to you these my intentions, in order that you may be fully apprised of a matter so highly important to me and my kingdoms; and which, I persuade myself, will be most acceptable to all my loving subjects."

"Whereupon, all the Privy Counsellors present, made it their humble request to His Majesty, that this might be made public; which was graciously awarded."

On the 14th of July, the proclamation for the King's coronation was published, with the usual formalities, at Westminster, and at Charing Cross. At the same time, the Earl of Harcourt was nominated as the King's proxy, to fetch his fair bride from her natal roof. Lord Anson was appointed commander of the squadron destined to convey the future Queen to the British Isles. On Tuesday, the 15th, several fine drawings having been made of His Majesty, by the most eminent artists of the day, *four* were chosen, and submitted to the Sovereign for his opinion. On the 21st, news arrived of the capture of Pondicherry, and the French settlements in India. After the Park and Tower guns had announced the glorious tidings, a superb illumination took place: and whilst those festivities were in active progress, intelligence came, announcing the capture of a French West India island. And the next day, Wednesday the 22d, the important news arrived, of Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick having, on the 16th preceding, gained a splendid victory over the French in Germany! Such a flood of prosperous fortune was seldom known in the annals of any King. If the young Monarch could

have commanded circumstances with a wish, and fortune had been ever so obsequious, he could scarcely have improved his prospects. A splendid court was held, in honour of the victory won by Prince Ferdinand; the great guns were fired, and the Metropolis illuminated. On the 23d, Lord Harcourt, Lord Anson, &c. received their respective diplomas, relative to fetching over the young Princess of Mecklenburg. On Saturday, the colours taken at the late battle, were laid before the King, who gave the bearer of the dispatches, Major Wedderburn, a present of £1000, and the command of a new regiment. On Sunday the 24th, the King ordered a solemn thanksgiving, for the capture of Pondicherry. The Earl of Harcourt, and his son, Lord Nuneham, sailed from Harwich on the 1st of August, an important day in the annals of the House of Brunswick. On the 7th, Lord Anson hoisted his flag, as Commander in Chief of the squadron ordered to escort the young Queen to Great Britain.

The anonymous author of "George the Third, his Court, and Family," as well as Mr. CRAIG, assert, that in the King's selection of the lady who became his consort, his mind was influenced, and his choice fixed, by that well-known letter, addressed by her to Frederick the Great, of which the following is an *original translation*, if the expression is allowable:*

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

"I am at a loss whether I should congratulate or condole with you on your late victory, since that same success, which

* Sir Levet Hansen obtained a German copy of this celebrated letter, of which the above is *his* translation: he did not deny that the Princess was respectable both in talent and attainments; but he doubted its being her own composition.

has covered you with laurels, has overspread with desolation, Mecklenburg, my native land.*

“ I know, Sire, that it may appear unbecoming my years and sex, in this age of excessive refinement, to feel for the land of my fathers, deplore the horrors of war, or sigh for the return of the blessings of peace. Your Majesty—I know it too well!—may reasonably think I might have employed myself more compatibly with my situation, on subjects of a less political nature,—in pursuing my studies to complete my education, or superintending my domestic concerns. However unbecoming it may be in me thus to obtrude on your august presence, I cannot resist the impulse I feel to intercede by letter in behalf of those unhappy people.

“ Only a few years since, and Mecklenburg wore the happiest aspect. Its fields were cultivated, the husbandmen looked joyful, and the cities and towns abounded with happiness and plenty.† How lamentable, Sire, is the change from this once happy state! It is such, that the most expert at description can add nothing to its horrors. Even a conqueror might weep at the hideous scenes spread wide around me. The whole of my beloved and dearly cherished father-land, lies one extended scene of waste and ruin! and presents only objects to excite compassion, affright, despair.

“ The husbandmen and the shepherds are become soldiers themselves, and help in ravaging the fields they formerly tilled. The plundered, deserted towns, are inhabited by the aged, by women, by children. Here and there a mutilated, disabled warrior, worn out, and unfit for combat, is left at his desolate hut; his little children hang round him, ask the history of

* *Mein Vaterlant*; i. e. the land of my forefathers, is the original German of the words, represented by ‘*my native land*.’ In that patriarchal way, it was translated by Sir Levet Hansen, or his Secretary, Mr. Rihl: the latter was, in 1803, presented by the GREAT Lord Nelson, with a capacious silver tobacco-box, curiously embossed. Relative to the word ‘*Fatherland*,’ it is much to be regretted, that this fine Gothic phrase, so truly expressive and endearing, should have been expunged by the corrupted and mongrel race called Normans.

† In the translation published in England, in 1761, the expressions are, ‘*and the towns abounded with RICHES and festivity*.’ There are fifty towns in Holland, and twice as many in Great Britain, the poorest of which possesses greater wealth than the sum total of fixed or moveable property in Mecklenburg, at the zenith of its prosperity.

every scar, and fancy themselves soldiers before they find strength* to wield a sword, or carry a musket. But, alas! we never know the worst of our fate; the unhappy cultivators having to sustain alternately the insolence and oppression of either army, in pursuing the operations of the campaign, in advancing or retreating. It is impossible to conceive the confusion, waste, and dismay, which those who plume themselves as being our friends and protectors create; and they in whom we ought to find redress, oppress with fresh calamities my unhappy country!

“From your justice, Sire! your generosity, your compassion, we hope for relief and succour. To you the most feeble, even women and children, may complain; whose humanity stoops to the meanest petition,† and whose arm is strong enough to humble the proudest aggressor.

“I am, Sire, &c. &c.

“SOPHIA-CHARLOTTE.”

This letter is stated, in ‘The Court and Family,’ p. 210, to have been transmitted by Frederick to George III. who no sooner perused it, than he exclaimed to Lord Hertford, “This is the lady whom I shall select for my consort: here are lasting beauties; the man who has a mind, may feast and not be satiated.”

Mr. Craig states, (p. 13,) that “*inquiries were ordered to be made, who could write a letter like this?*”

* * * * *

* This, though an affecting image, is not just, nor applicable, nor natural. Under circumstances of such extreme and complicated misery, the poor children, suffering by hunger, cold, and nakedness, and shuddering at a dreary winter then closing upon them, must surely have cursed the war and its authors, which had taken their parent from his home, and returned him, mutilated and useless, unable to wield a sword, or till the earth; unable to procure them a mouthful of bread, and likely himself to perish of hunger upon his cold hearth!—*Hansen*, 1808.

† There was no embellishment in this compliment. A letter from a private soldier, or labouring hind, transmitted by the ordinary post, and addressed to the King, was certain of reaching him, of being read, and invariably answered—laconically, it is true, but as regularly as by any merchant in Europe.

The anxiety was great (he continued) on all sides, during this apparent suspension of the subject so desired by all; for the inquiries, with proper delicacies, were made most privately, and through channels that could not be known or suspected. This, at the présent day, appears very extraordinary, and is scarcely intelligible.

The author of 'George III. his Court, and Family,' (Vol. I. p. 212,) affirms, perhaps on the high credit and general accuracy of '*The Times*,' that an agent, supposed to have been Colonel Graeme, (already named,) a confidential dependent of Lord BUTE, was sent to visit the inferior German Courts, '*in search of a wife*' for the King. 'The instructions (says the author) were, *that she must be of pure blood and healthy constitution, possessed of elegant accomplishments, particularly music, and of a mild and obliging disposition.*' The good qualities are expressed in terms sufficiently intelligible, and in language not very dissimilar to what is often seen, in advertisements for shop-women and housekeepers. The combined phrases '*pure blood and healthy constitution,*' are not remarkable either for delicacy or perspicuity.

Mr. Craig, ever eager to give consequence, and render homage to his royal patroness, asserts, (p. 14,) that "*Fame, with her many tongues, had already proclaimed, in every quarter of Europe, the good-sense, the knowledge, the acquirements, of this incomparable young lady, who, at seventeen years old, was found competent to correspond with one of the most distinguished Sovereigns then living.*" This gentleman would fain persuade his readers, that the Princess was the object of the King's affections, even before he had beheld her, and that he fell in love at first sight! His partiality to a benefactress, who stood so ill with the public, was pardonable, perhaps amiable, but not candid. Lord BUTE, whose treacherous machinations blasted the King's first

love, sent private intimation to the petty Sovereign, the brother of the late Queen. BUTE's influence and management in bringing about this match, were as actively, powerfully, and secretly exerted, as it had previously been to undermine that which aimed at the elevation of Lady Sarah Lennox.

Two of the most beautiful married ladies of the British Court, the Duchess of Ancaster and the Duchess of Hamilton, were sent over to Mecklenburg with the Earl of Harcourt, to attend her upon her journey over land to Cuxhaven, and by sea to England. The venerable JOHN LOWE, in a recent communication to the Editor, states, that the Honourable Miss Diana Beauclerc was sent down to receive the Queen at Harwich, as Maid of Honour, who, to use his own words, '*continued with her as long as she lived.*' A fact not stated by any of the authorities now before the Editor. The same correspondent also wrote: "When our late Queen Charlotte arrived in England, she was landed at Harwich; Lieutenant Staniforth, being first Lieutenant (of the ROYAL CHARLOTTE YACHT), stepped in before the Captain, and handed the late Queen out (of the Yacht). And then '*the QUEEN,*' East Indiaman, was built, and made a present of to him; and as for the Captain, he was taken care of some other way." There are probably some inaccuracies in these particulars. The narrator is five years older than the beloved King and master of whom he spoke was, when he died. They were committed to paper by another's hand; may not have been correctly stated; yet, as the venerable old man related nearly the same facts verbally to the Editor, when last he saw him:—accompanied by these qualifications, this part of his interesting '*Reminiscences*' are submitted to the public.

CHAPTER XIII.

Perturbed state of the King's mind.—Hopeless Love, finely described by Robert Burns.—Arrival of the Princess SOPHIA CHARLOTTE at Harwich.—Her progress to London.—Trepidation.—Original Minutes of the first Interview between George III. and his Consort.—The Snuff Box.—ROYAL NUP-TIALS.—Bubb Doddington's ludicrous Disaster at Court.—Vanishing Clouds.—Dawning Happiness.—Native Greatness of Mind asserted and demonstrated.—Serious Reflections.—Friendly Hints, addressed 'to the Examiner.'—Extracts from Walpole.

NONE but those who have loved intensely and virtuously, a beautiful and accomplished mistress by whom his passion was returned, and who have lived to mourn the disappointment of his high-wrought hopes of connubial felicity, can form, even a faint idea, of the mental torture which, in the sacrifice of the dearest and most fondly cherished affections of his heart, the late King must, at this crisis, have had to endure. But his was a still more aggravated case. In general, the unhappy lover, in solitude and silence, may soothe the melancholy of his wounded mind; and if he cannot forget the object of his choice, he is at least exempted from the unspeakable misery of taking another woman to his arms, whilst his fond heart yearned in all the fervour of a first and youthful passion for his first and only love.

Such, however wretched, according to many concurring testimonies, actually was the unhappy condition of George III. when, ascending the Throne, he had to renounce the noble and beautiful maiden, to whom his vows were plighted,

and who was worthy of his love. If the Prince had followed the dictates of his inclination, there can be little doubt but he would have willingly resigned a joyless crown, to have saved the fair object of his affection the pangs which she had to suffer; and to have attained for himself that felicity which he was about to lose sight of for ever!*

* The beautiful '*Lament*,' by Robert Burns, applies with such admirable precision to the condition of George the Third, at this period of his life, that, instead of some specimens of the poetical showers which rained on account of these Royal Nuptials, the Editor presents his readers with those truly pathetic stanzas, which far exceed in pathos, force, and harmony, either of the love elegies of Hammond.—If there should be any space for an Appendix, those specimens shall yet be given.

“ O thou pale orb, that silent shines,
While care-untroubled mortals sleep!
Thou seest a wretch that *inly* pines,
And wanders here to wail and weep!
With woe, I nightly vigils keep,
Beneath thy wan, unwarming beam;
And mourn in lamentation deep,
How *life* and *love* are all a dream.

“ I joyless view thy rays adorn
The faintly marked, distant hill:
I joyless view thy trembling horn,
Reflecting in the gurgling rill:
My fondly fluttering heart, be still!
Thou busy power, REMEMBRANCE, cease!
Ah! must the agonizing thrill,
For ever bar returning peace?

“ No idly-feign'd poetic pains,
My sad love-lorn lamentings claim;
No shepherd's pipe—Arcadian strains;
No fabled tortures, quaint and tame;
The oft attested Powers above;
The plighted faith,—the mutual flame,
The promis'd father's tender name;
THESE WERE THE PLEDGES OF MY LOVE!

“ Encircled in her clasping arms,
How have the raptur'd moments flown:
How have I wish'd for fortune's charms,
For her dear sake, and her's alone;

But he felt that he was born for the people, and not the people for him. His wily counsellors succeeded in convincing his understanding that the precious offering was required: and, from the most noble and purest of motives, he strung his mind to make

* * * * *

* * * * *

And is she ever, ever lost!

* * * * *

“ Alas! life’s path may be unsmooth!

Her way may lie thro’ rough distress!

Then who *her* pangs and pains will soothe,

Her sorrows share, and make them less?

“ Ye winged hours that o’er us past,

Enraptur’d more, the more enjoy’d,

Your dear remembrance in my breast,

My fondly-treasur’d thoughts employ’d.

That breast, how dreary now, and void,

For her, too scanty once of room;

Ev’n ev’ry ray of hope destroy’d,

And not a *wish* to gild the gloom!

“ The morn that wakes th’ approaching day,

Awakes me up to toil and woe:—

I see the hours in long array,

That I must suffer, ling’ring, slow.

Full many a pang, and many a throe,

Keen recollection’s direful train,

Must wring my soul, ere Phœbus, low,

Shall kiss the distant western main.

“ And when the nightly couch I try,

Sore harass’d out with care and grief,

My toil-beat nerves, and tear-worn eye,

Keep watchings with the nightly thief:

Or if I slumber, Fancy, chief,

Reigns haggard-wild, in sore affright:

Ev’n day, all-bitter, brings relief

From such a horror-breathing night.

“ O! thou bright Queen, who o’er th’ expanse,

Now highest reign’st with boundless sway!

Oft has thy silent-marking glance

Observ’d us, fondly-wand’ring stray:

the greatest of sacrifices! And there is abundant reason for believing that the awful struggle which shook his mind, ere he dared promise to renounce what he ought not to have been required to yield, furnished the first great source of those mental aberrations; the consequences of which have not been less fatal to the nation, than cruelly oppressive as regarded the Monarch. The policy on which the state sacrifice was required, is too feeble to bear the test of sober investigation, and will soon become obsolete;* but the mischiefs which it *has entailed* upon the reigning dynasty, and upon the British empire, are alike prominent and irreparable. This being the Editor's view of the subject, and trusting to the probability of a majority of his readers cherishing similar feelings, the cumbrous and demi-barbarous pageantry of the coronation processions will be almost wholly omitted, or reserved for the Appendix, that a more copious and minute narrative may be given of this most critical period of the long and eventful life of GEORGE the THIRD.

It appears that if Admiral Lord Anson had been left to his own judgment, he would have deferred

The time, unheeded, sped away,
While love's luxuriant pulse beat high,
Beneath thy silver gleaming ray,
To mark the mutual-kindling eye.

“ Oh! scenes in strong remembrance set—
Scenes, never, never to return:
Scenes, if in stupor I forget,
Again I feel; again I burn.

* * * * *

* A humorous and well-written article upon this subject, i. e. the importation of *German* husbands and *German* wives, at the public expense, recently appeared in a Liverpool print; wherein the folly of the traffic was exposed; and, what is deemed no less essential in a great mart of commerce, that the balance tells very heavily against the understanding and the purse of John Bull.

the embarkation of the future Queen, till the wind and weather were more settled and favourable. But, as the day for the great national spectacle, a *Coronation!* had been fixed by proclamation, and as this happy and fortunate young Princess was intended to share in its honours, (although the heart of her *devoted* husband was given to another, and the marriage was wholly founded upon old maxims of state-policy,) Admiralty orders were issued, commanding the Admiral '*at all events*' to put to sea, and land the Princess at the first British port he could make with safety. Had time and circumstances allowed, the original plan was to have brought the lady by water to Greenwich, and thus have given her a view of a new world to her wondering eyes. In consequence of official orders, the royal bride embarked, in great state, at STADE, on the 28th of August, from which time, till the fleet reached the coast of Suffolk, no news were heard of her; and it was feared her health might suffer by so tedious a passage.

After three successive storms, after having been thrice in view of the wished-for coast, and as often in danger of being driven off to that of Norway, the fleet arrived in Harwich Roads, on SUNDAY the 6th of September, after a tedious voyage of nine days. During this period, the Princess, it is said, suffered but little from sea-sickness, continued in good health and spirits, endeavouring to gain the goodwill of every one round her, and striving to render herself more attractive to her stately young lover, by practising English tunes on the harpsichord; and probably acquiring, as fast as she was able, a knowledge of the English, of which she laboured under the disadvantage of being entirely ignorant.

When the fleet made Harwich, it was night; and of course it would have been unsafe, or at least improper, to have landed the royal stranger; but she was kept on board till *three o'clock* in the after-

noon of the following day ; which delay of landing, and tedious addition of confinement, was not very creditable to the gallantry of Lord Harcourt, as there is no mention made of the landing having been prevented by bad weather.*

At three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, the 7th, the Queen elect was landed, and received by the Mayor and Aldermen of Harwich, in the Borough formalities, whose politeness, eloquence, and breeding, were probably about equal to that of the lower class of shopkeepers of the present day. Such was the first landing of Charlotte, amidst the cheers of a large concourse of spectators. In whose carriage she proceeded, with her suite, on her journey, is not stated ; perhaps Lord Harcourt's. The beauty of the drive thence to Manningtree and Colchester, was calculated to convey a very favourable impression of the natural beauties and high cultivation of England. The views over the broad water which extends to Ipswich, and its bold, indented, forest-clad shores, towns, villages, and scattered farms, being highly picturesque ; and the trees yet clothed in all their leafy honours.

The Princess and her suite arrived at Colchester about five in the afternoon ; consequently she must have proceeded rapidly. An immense multitude had assembled at Colchester, who hailed the fair stranger with their loudest plaudits. The cavalcade stopped at the residence of Mr. ENEW, where she was received and waited upon by Mrs. ENEW and Mrs. REBOW ; Captain Best, R. N. had the

* When that young and lovely Princess, MARY of *Est*, was escorted to Calais, and embarked for Dover, her destined consort met her on the Pier, and received her in his arms. It may be observed, that James was *not a monarch* at that time ; and also, that his heart was not pre-occupied : he waited impatiently the arrival of that Italian rose-bud. Not thus George III. *then* felt towards Sophia-Charlotte.

honour to hand the Princess coffee, and Lieutenant John Seaber presented a cup of tea. Whilst she *reposed*, if any repose could be obtained on such an occasion, Mr. GREAT, (who perhaps was mayor, or chief magistrate of Colchester,) according to '*olden times*,' when any of the Royal Family passed that town, presented the young lady with a box of candied eringo roots. He was introduced by the Earl of Harcourt.

Amidst the accumulations of a countless throng of eager spectators, to whom, as much as time and circumstance would permit, the Princess shewed herself, with every mark of gracious condescension, the royal lady set off, and, at a quarter past seven, arrived at Lord Abercorn's seat, near Witham. Here again was manifested the semblance, if not the *reality*, of neglect. There certainly was abundance of time for the master of the mansion to have performed, *in person*, the rites of hospitality to the future Queen; and there is no mention of his having been detained in London by any important hinderance.*

The door of her sitting-room in this nobleman's mansion was courteously left open, that as many spectators as pleased might survey their future Queen. The scene was calculated to excite the strongest curiosity, and means were liberally adopted for its innocent gratification. A considerable degree of splendour was attached to this interesting display. Several of the first ladies of the British Court were in waiting. On the right hand of the Queen elect, stood Lord Harcourt; on the left, a much more interesting character, the celebrated circumnavigator, Admiral Lord ANSON. The first night of her abode in England, she passed in Lord Abercorn's house.

* Horace Walpole, in a letter which will be inserted, states, that Lord Abercorn was '*most tranquilly in Town.*'

The next morning, (Tuesday,) she arose refreshed, and in high spirits; pleased with the country, and apparently delighted with, and grateful for, the honours paid her. About ten o'clock she started, every where passing gazing crowds. At twelve o'clock she arrived at Rumford. Here the royal escort halted at the house of Mr. DUTTON, a wine-merchant, and, of course, a principal inhabitant. At this town the future Queen was met by the superb carriages, and richly-dressed servants, of her lord and husband. The procession then assumed the more splendid ensigns of royalty. It was hinted, in some of the prints of the day, that there was *a certain something wanting*, in the whole of these arrangements: what *that something was*, the reader will have sagacity enough to guess. After resting, or rather waiting, an hour, surrounded by eager myriads of spectators, the Princess took her seat in the King's coach; her train proceeding in three other royal carriages. In the first were some ladies from Mecklenburg; in the two next, her English attendants; in the last, the Princess, on the front seat, who sat very forward, to gratify the spectators. On the back seat were the two court beauties, the Duchess of Hamilton, and the Duchess of Ancaster. The Queen was dressed wholly in the English taste, in what was then called a *fly cap*, with rich laced lappets; a stomacher richly ornamented with diamonds; her gown and petticoat of gold brocade, on a white ground.

The Leicester militia were drawn up in the post-towns on the London road. Attended by an incalculable and mingled multitude of metropolitan and rural spectators, of all degrees, and by all manner of equipages, the retinue advanced, at a sharp pace, through *Stratford, Bow, and Mile End*: at this place a detachment of life-guards was waiting the Queen's arrival. They then turned off up *Dog Row*, thence to *Hackney Turnpike*, to *Shoreditch*;

Old-street Road, to the *City Road*; thence along the New Road, through Portland Road, *Mary-le-Bone*, *Hyde Park*, along Constitution Hill to St. James's Park. The whole way, the young stranger was hailed by incessant peals of applause. As she approached St. James's Palace, her self-command abated, she turned pale, and seemed agitated. A few minutes would place her before a man whom her eyes had never yet beheld; whose heart she knew was possessed by another, and a more beautiful woman; and, that a few hours would unite them together for life. To a really delicate mind, nothing more distressing, short of actual violence and dishonour, can be conceived!

The Duchess of Hamilton playfully strove to cheer her spirits, and recompose her agitated mind, saying, "You have nothing here, my Queen, except a handsome young lover, eager to receive you, and innumerable friends."—"You may laugh, my dear Duchess, (said Sophia-Charlotte,) that have been *twice* married: believe me, it is no joke with me." There seems to be great delicacy, and a great *want* of delicacy, in these expressions. Having reached St. James's Palace, Her Majesty's carriage stopped at the garden gate. The Duke of Devonshire, as Lord Chamberlain, handed the Queen, her heart palpitating, from the King's coach; and his brother, the Duke of York, received her. This was, indeed, a most critical moment in both their lives,—most exquisitely painful and embarrassing.

From the windows of his palace '*the distressed lover*' saw, with secret anguish, the approach of his future bride. As he descended the grand stair, leading to the garden, he was observed, in despite of all his efforts, to tremble, and his lips and cheeks turned pale, but no tear appeared. The old man from whom these particulars have been derived, stood amongst the royal domestics ranged in the garden, and in full view of the Monarch and

his bride. Both, he said, appeared agitated; the bride the less so. The Duke of York led her towards the King, behind whom was the Princess Dowager, and the Princess Augusta.

As the King advanced, there appeared an air of *wildness* in his eyes, quite unusual; and of *surprise* on the countenances of the royal females near. As the young bride and the King met, about a pace before him, she bowed her head, and sunk on her right knee. For an instant the King seemed overpowered by his feelings; and with a sort of convulsive start, drew back; but her lowly, graceful action, as suddenly recalled all the powers of his noble mind, and, rapidly stooping, he took her by her half-extended arm, and as he raised her, drew her towards his bosom, giving her a kiss—if not of love, of the sincerest friendship and the purest sympathy,* and led her, scarcely less agitated than himself, to the magnificent apartment, where she was received by the junior branches of the Royal Family.

* The Editor of '*The Times*,' on the 31st of January, thus gracefully and eloquently expressed himself, on this delicate subject: *viz.*

"The KING's marriage unfolded new excellencies in his mind, most important to the interests of his people. Long before the royal marriage was resolved on, his heart, it is supposed, had been deeply touched by the attractions of a young lady, in the highest rank of English nobility. *His Majesty's thoughts were believed to be strongly bent on removing every legal obstacle which impeded the indulgence of his affections.* But then, as at all times, he sacrificed his own happiness to the public good: he yielded to the representations of his more calm advisers.

"*Her Majesty was not handsome—in the eye more especially of a man of 22, whose heart was pre-occupied with another image. An involuntary expression of the KING's countenance revealed what was passing within; but it was a passing cloud. The generous feelings of the Monarch were interested; and the tenderness with which he thenceforward treated Queen Charlotte was uninterrupted until the moment of their final separation.*"

The latter part is borrowed from Walpole's letter to Seymour Conway, 8th Sept. 1761.

Re-assured by his kind attentions, which grew out of pity rather than affection, the Queen (says Mr. CRAIG), “a few minutes after her introduction to the family, offered her *snuff-box** to the King; a signal of *cordial amity* then prevalent in all the other courts of Europe. The King bowed respectfully on the hand that held it, professing he never took snuff; on which the Princess immediately passed the box behind her, saying, ‘*Never let me see it again!*’ His Majesty felt the full force of the *compliment*, (which surely was a *rebuke* for a want of gallantry;) and four days after, with the most elegant gallantry, presented the Queen with *two snuff-boxes*, splendidly ornamented with diamonds; the one having the miniature of himself on the top, and the other a miniature of the Queen. The gratified lady kissed the first with great emotion, and presented the other to her husband, who accepted it with the same token of devoted affection.”—(Vide Appendix, p. 547—8.)

For the remainder of the ‘ROYAL NUPTIALS,’ the Editor takes, verbatim, the excellent narrative, presented by ‘*The Times*’ the Monday following the death of George III. *viz.*

“Their Majesties, Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales, and all His Majesty’s brothers and sisters, except the two youngest, dined together afterwards. After

* This anecdote, given as a matter of fact by a gentleman who afterwards belonged to the establishment of that Queen, and in her Memoir, dedicated to her eldest son, as it does not go to flatter, may be relied on as genuine. It evinces, almost beyond every other incident, the deeply perturbed state of the King’s mind, in the midst of all this blaze of regal splendour,—his abstraction, and remissness. This *snuff-box* story also denotes, that at this early period of her life, the late Queen was addicted to a custom, ‘more honour’d in the breach than the observance,’ at variance with personal cleanliness, and, in a wife, most peculiarly offensive to a man of true delicacy; which habit, growing upon her, acquired a *nick-name*, by which she became as familiarly recognized as that of Queen Charlotte.

dinner, Her Majesty was pleased to show herself, with His Majesty, in the gallery, and other apartments fronting the Park, to the people.

“ All the Royal Family, together with His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who gave her hand to the King, and Princess Amelia, were present at the nuptials. Their Majesties, after the ceremony, sat on one side of the altar, on two state chairs, under a canopy; Her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales sat facing them, in a chair of state, on the other side; and all the rest of the Royal Family on stools, and the quality on benches, which consisted of all the foreign ministers, including Mons. Bussy, all the peers and peeresses of the kingdom, together with the bishops, except the Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Bishop of Hereford, who had sprained his ankle. After the ceremony, there was a public drawing room.

“ The marriage ceremony began at nine o'clock at night; at the conclusion of which, the guns at the Park and the Tower were fired, and the cities of London and Westminster, &c. were finely illuminated. The rejoicings were universally expressed by the people, with that cheerfulness which true loyalty inspired on this happy occasion.

“ The ten bridesmaids to the Queen were all dressed alike, in white lustring, with silver trimmings, ornamented with pearls, diamonds, &c. a dress that attracted the eyes of every one. They appeared at Court the three days following in the same dress.

“ On Wednesday the 9th inst. there was a very grand Court at St. James's, when all the ladies of the Court were presented to the Queen, and had the honour to kiss Her Majesty's hand. At night, there was the most grand and brilliant ball ever known, which ended at one o'clock; it was opened by the Duke of York and the Princess Augusta. On the 10th there was a very grand levee* at St. James's, when

* CUMBERLAND has recorded a curious misfortune which befel the notorious George Bubb Doddington on this occasion, which he related thus: *viz.*—“ When he paid his court at St. James's to Her Majesty, upon her nuptials, and approached to kiss her hand, decked in an embroidered suit of silk, with lilac waistcoat and breeches, the latter, in the act of kneeling down, forgot their duty, and broke loose from their moorings, in a very indecorous and uncourtly manner.”

This shuffling courtier soon afterwards attained the lowest place in the British Peerage, just in time to obtain the privilege of a *Peer's funeral rites!*

several ladies and gentlemen of the first distinction were presented to Her Majesty, and were most graciously received. The dresses on this occasion equalled, if not exceeded, those of the preceding days. On the 11th, the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Secretary Pitt, and Earl Talbot, gave grand entertainments at their several houses, to the nobility, foreign ministers, &c. on account of the royal marriage. There was also another grand levee at St. James's. On the 12th, their Majesties went from St. James's to Richmond Palace, where they dined: the Queen expressed the greatest pleasure in viewing that beautiful and charmingly situated palace. On Sunday, the 13th, their Majesties were at the Chapel Royal, and heard a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Schutz, from these words: 'Provide things honest in the sight of all men,' Rom. xii. v. 17. There was also a grand Court at St. James's, when all the Royal Family were present, the foreign ambassadors, and a great number of the nobility and gentry, who all made a most brilliant appearance. Their Majesties dined with the Princess Dowager of Wales. On Monday, the 14th, at one o'clock, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City, went to wait on their Majesties at St. James's, to congratulate them on their happy nuptials; after which they waited on the Princess Dowager. They were received very graciously, and had the honour of kissing their Majesties' hands. The Common Councilmen were all dressed in their *new mazarine blue silk gowns*, lined with fur, *wore full-bottomed wigs*, and made a very grand appearance. It was computed there were upwards of 300 coaches.

"The same night, about a quarter after six, their Majesties, with most of the Royal Family, went to Drury-lane Playhouse, to see *The Rehearsal*. Their Majesties went in chairs, and the rest of the Royal Family in coaches, attended by the horse-guards. His Majesty was preceded by the Duke of Devonshire, his Lord Chamberlain, and the Hon. Mr. Finch, Vice-Chamberlain; and Her Majesty was preceded by the Duke of Manchester, Her Majesty's Lord Chamberlain, and Lord Cantalupe, her Vice-Chamberlain, the Earl of Harcourt, her Master of the Horse, and by the Duchess of Ancaster and the Countess of Effingham. It is almost inconceivable the crowds of people that waited in the streets, quite from St. James's to the Playhouse, to see their Majesties. It is said that the crowd pressed so violently upon Her Majesty's chair, that she discovered some signs of fear; but, upon entering the Playhouse, she presently recollected herself, and behaved

with great gaiety the whole night after. Never was seen so brilliant a house, the ladies being mostly dressed in the clothes and jewels they wore at the royal marriage. The house was full almost as soon as the doors were open, so that, out of the vast multitude present, not a fiftieth part got in, to the infinite disappointment and fatigue of many thousands. There was a prodigious deal of mischief done at the doors of the house; several genteel women, who were imprudent enough to attempt to get in, had their cloaks, caps, aprons, handkerchiefs, all torn off; the great crowd, and want of fresh air, brought to the people's minds the condition of those unhappy people, who were suffocated in the black-hole at Calcutta, in the East Indies. A girl was killed, and a man so trampled on, that he recovered with much difficulty.

“On Wednesday, the Chancellor and University of Oxford presented their address; and both Universities seemed to have vied with each other in making the most illustrious appearance on this happy event; there being a greater number of persons of high rank and eminence attending the presentation of their respective addresses, than has been known on any former occasion.”

Each succeeding hour, from that on which the royal pair first met, produced a gradual approximation of affection between them. The value of self-command and fortitude, were never more clearly manifested, than by the King's demeanour. If, with passions strong as his, he had not been restrained by the yet more powerful effects of moral principle, and unfeigned religious resignation, it is extremely probable, from the symptoms of deep aversion which he could not suppress, he would, on the first view of his intended consort, have broken off the marriage. But those never-failing supports gave him power more than equal to the pressure. The lonely, isolated state of the kneeling suitor, on whom, had he rejected her, he must have heaped an irreparable wrong, an indelible disgrace,—the noble, *primitive Christian* doctrine, “DO UNTO ANOTHER AS THOU WOULDST BE DONE UNTO,”—accumulated a mental force superior to every temptation, and the half-despised,

'*ugly little girl*,' gradually acquired that degree of ascendancy, which never suffered a permanent diminution. This awful and painful intellectual struggle, which tortured his heart most intensely, like pure gold cast into the fiercest furnace, only served to shew the purity of his mind, and to display his *innate* sincerity and integrity. Every one knows, that in the usual operation of natural causes and effects, *over-great exertions*, either physical or mental, very materially weaken the bodily or intellectual organs, and renders them incapable of sustaining similar exertion, without imminent danger of a partial or complete breaking up of the respective systems, and ever after liable, on any great emergency, to total extinction. The Editor, at an early period of this historical Memoir, (Chapter III.) alluding to the probable effect of that fierce enmity, which, at the period in question, prevailed in the reigning family, supposed it might have operated the *premature birth* of George III. and, by possibility, have also given the first cause of that lamentable infirmity, to which, in the flower of youthful manhood, the late King became subject. The second great cause unquestionably existed in the painful sacrifice, on the altars of Gothic policy, of a deeply-rooted passion, which could not be eradicated, without lacerating and tearing the heart with whose every fibre the cherished object of his affection was entwined. And, lastly, the sad effects of those indecent struggles between two oligarchical factions, whereby, from the commencement, till the close of his reign, the throne, and the nation, were alternately, and almost incessantly, shaken and convulsed. Those were the principal of the hidden rocks on which was wrecked as noble a mind as God ever breathed into the human form. They formed the latent causes of that hurried action, the wildly roving eye, the vacant stare, the still more vacant laugh,—that fondness of fleeing from, and

shunning, *intense thought*, and often taking refuge in light and familiar dialogues with the lowliest of his subjects. And this extreme variation, and play of the mental pendulum, from profundity of grave research into remote causes, and distant effects, to gossiping with stable-boys, kitchen-wenches, or garrulous old dames; and the frequent hobby-laugh, in which the distressed Monarch so frequently indulged, impressed on the muscles of his features those anomalous traits, which appeared like a sort of *mask*, imprinted on the natural gravity and composed dignity, which marked his physiognomy in the early part of his life. This is what the editor of '*The Examiner*,' in some well written, but too uncharitable strictures, (which appeared soon after the death of the venerable Monarch,) has termed "signs of the predominance of the *animal*, over the *intellectual*, *man*." This displays a greater want of sympathy for the victim of the heaviest of human calamities, than of ignorance as to its source. That editor should have touched more reverently on those symptoms, and reserved all the severity of his comments for the agents and factors of the oligarchical leaders, whose base and venal collisions had so great a share in producing the ruin of a mind, far—far superior, in every endearing quality, to the greatest and the proudest of those legislative and senatorial gladiators. Instead of which, hurried along by embittered feelings, he gave vent to sentiments, which few wise and temperate men, at the end of seven years from their appearance, will applaud. The Editor of this Memoir of George III. will not arraign the *motive*, whilst he denies the justice of those strictures of '*The Examiner*;' nor has he any secret reasons for bestowing praise, in which his own heart does not beat in unison with his pen. Freely he acknowledges, that formerly he held opinions of the deceased Monarch, much less favourable. The

change resulted from a more extended research, from more deliberate, calm, and expansive examination of the characters of his state ministers, the annals of his reign, and the unbought, disinterested testimony, of a number of individuals, not known to each other, who had, collectively, attended upon the King, almost from his cradle, even to his grave; all of whom, without a single exception, agreed in describing the Monarch's moral principles and living practice, in terms so very flattering, that the combined effect of all these sources of information, produced the impression which beams, or *ought* to beam, in almost every page where the Monarch is personally introduced; but still, as the subsequent pages will shew, there are points, and important points too, wherein the Editor conceives the Sovereign to have been misled, either by passion or prejudice; and when he arrives at these periods, he will not be found applying a varnish, or bestowing unmerited applause.

Returning to the narrative, which the extract from '*The Times*' brings down to to the 14th of September:—thence to the Coronation, there occurred nothing but one continued stream of addresses, and public festivities of every kind.

To fill up the deficiency, or rather, to entwine as much interesting intelligence as the assigned limits will permit, a few extracts from the letters of Horace Walpole will be given; as they pourtray, in a style peculiarly his own, and full of animation, the suspense, anxiety, and prurient curiosity, which so intensely prevailed at the crisis in question: *viz.*

“ TO THE HON. H. SEYMOUR CONWAY.

“ *Tuesday morning, 8th Sept. 1761.*

“ Nothing was ever equal to the bustle and uncertainty of the town, during these three days. The Queen was seen off the coast of Suffolk on Saturday last, and is not yet arrived;

last night, at ten o'clock, it was neither certain where she landed, nor when she would be in town. I forgive history for knowing nothing, when the public event of the arrival of the new Queen is a mystery, even at this very moment,* at St. James's. The messenger who brought the letter said, she arrived half after four at Harwich; this was immediately translated into landing, and notified in these words to ministers: six hours afterwards it proved no such thing, and that she was only in Harwich Road; and they recollected, that half an hour after four happens twice in twenty-four hours, and the letter did not specify which of the *twices* it was. Well, the bridemaids whipt on their virginity; the new roads and the Parks were thronged; the guns were choaking with impatience to get off; and Sir James Lowther, who was to pledge His Majesty, was actually married to Lady Mary Stuart: five, six, seven, and eight o'clock came, and no Queen; she lay at Witham, at Lord Abercorn's, who was most tranquilly in town; and it is not certain whether she will be composed enough to be in to-night: she has been sick but half an hour; *sung and played on the harpsichord all the voyage*,† and been cheerful the whole time.

“ *Twenty minutes past three in the Afternoon,
not in the middle of the Night.* ”

“ P. S. Madame Charlotte is this instant arrived: the noise of the coaches, chaises, horsemen, mob, that have been to see her pass through the Parks, is so prodigious, I cannot distinguish the guns. I am going to be dressed, and before seven shall launch into the crowd.”

“ *Sept. 9, 1761.* ”

“ The Queen is come; I have seen her,—been presented to her, and may go back to Strawberry. For this fortnight I have lived upon the road between Twickenham and London. I came, grew impatient, returned; came again, still to no purpose. The Yacht made the coast of Suffolk last Saturday;

* Certainly, not correct.

† How different her feelings and her fate to that of the sweet girl, Caroline-Matilda! She wept, as she went on board the Yacht; and was full of grief when she landed. Her fate was much more gloomy than her worst anticipations had foreboded.

on Sunday, entered the road of Harwich; and, on Monday morning, the King's chief eunuch, as the Tripoline Ambassador called Lord Anson, handed the Princess, and yesterday, at a quarter after three, arrived at St. James's. In half an hour every one heard of nothing but proclamations of her beauty; every body was content; every body was pleased. At seven, one went to Court,—the night was sultry,—about ten, the procession began to move towards the Chapel; and at eleven, they all came up into the Drawing Room. She looks very sensible, cheerful, and is remarkably genteel. Her tiara of diamonds was very pretty; her stomacher sumptuous; her violet, velvet mantle, very heavy. You'll have no doubt of her sense, by what I'll tell you. On the road, they (the Duchesses probably) wanted her to curl her toupée: she said, she thought it looked as well as that of any of the ladies sent to fetch her; *if the King bid her, she would wear a periwig*; otherwise, she would remain as she was. When she caught the first glimpse of the Palace, she grew frightened, and grew pale; the Duchess of Hamilton smiled: the Princess said, 'My dear Duchess, you may laugh; you have been married twice; but it is no joke to me.' Her lips trembled, as the coach stopped; but she jumped out with spirit, and has done nothing but with good humour and cheerfulness. *She talks a good deal; is easy, civil, and not disconcerted.* At first, when the bridesmaids and the court were introduced to her, she said, 'Mon Dieu, il y en a tant!'^{*} She was pleased when she was to kiss the Peeresses; but Lady Augusta (Princess Royal) was forced to take her hand, and give it to those who were to kiss it, which was prettily humble and good-natured. While they waited for supper, she sat down, *sung, and played.* Her French is tolerable; she exchanged *much*, both of that and German, with the King, the Duke, and Duke of York. They did not go to bed till two. To-day was a Drawing Room: every body was presented to her; but she spoke to nobody, as she could not know a soul. The King looked very handsome, and talked to her continually with great good humour. It does not promise as if they would be the two most *unhappy* persons in England."

Free Translation.

* English,—“ Good God! what a lot of them!”

German,—“ Mein Gott! Es sind so viele!”

CHAPTER XIV.

Noble Demeanour of GEORGE III. to his QUEEN.—Her Birth and Education.—Proof of Monarchical Popularity.—Historical Notes.—Political Reflections.—Want of Wisdom, and of Patriotism, in the Whigs of 1688.—ESSENTIALS relative to the CORONATION.—Piety and Humility of the Head of the Church.—Archbishops seeking for Precedents of an humble Spirit!—Anecdote.—The King's demeanour applauded.—The King's Champion: his Challenge.—A Scottish, challenges the English, Champion.—Closing Scene, the Degradation of the Populace.—Rapacity of Lord Bute.—Political Economy.—Bedchamber Lords, and Kitchen Drudges.—Operation of the BUTEAN System.—Munificent Provision for the late Queen.—A Statement of Her Establishment.—The Resignation of Mr. PITT.—Ominous Symptoms of Prospective Policy.

THE next great event in which George III. and Queen CHARLOTTE* played the principal characters, was the CORONATION of that Monarch and his young bride. And, as though it had been his subsequent study, by munificence and splendour, to make atonement for whatever pain his demeanour

* Sophia-Charlotte, of Mecklenburg Strelitz, consort of George the Third, was born on the 19th of May, 1744; consequently, she was but just turned *seventeen* at this period. Her person and features are too familiarly known, to require description. Her principal tutor was a Lutheran priest, Doctor Genzmer. She had been instructed in the French and Italian languages: the *German* was her native tongue. Neither her genius, nor acquirements, were of the most brilliant description.

at their first interview had occasioned, his liberality towards her was much more conspicuous. Short as was the period between the marriage and the coronation, such had been the soothing, unassuming, endearing conduct of his Queen, that, if it could not so suddenly extirpate a deep-rooted passion, and create as strong an affection towards her person, as he had cherished for Lady Sarah Lennox, it tranquillized his feelings, blunted the poignancy of sorrow, and rendered her, whose approach he had dreaded, an object of admiration, respect, and affectionate esteem.

It might be difficult to select a stronger proof of the popularity of George III. than the prodigious advance which took place in the price of seats to obtain a view of his coronation: at the same time, it must be allowed, that the presence of the young Queen, whom, comparatively speaking, but few of the inhabitants of Great Britain had seen, attracted thousands of ladies to the spectacle, and formed its most interesting feature. At the coronation of George II. in 1727,* the price of a seat rose as high,

* In the galleries of the Abbey, the front seats, allotted to miscellaneous spectators, let at ten guineas per person. In common-size houses, which commanded a view of the procession, the price varied, from a *guinea* for a place on the roof, to *five* for one in the best situation. A moderate-size house in Coronation Row, is stated to have cleared £700. The ground-rent in the Broad Sanctuary, was three guineas and a half per square foot, and within the rails inclosing the Abbey, it was *five* guineas! A price that appears too high to admit of any profit on the part of the contractors; yet, the result proved, that they gained very considerably. This prurient desire to see the young Monarch and his amiable bride, encouraged some extravagant speculators on public folly to demand such prices as no one could be found silly enough to pay, and those, very deservedly, suffered. Temporary structures of timber were run up, called '*Coronation Theatres*,' some of which contained fifteen hundred spectators, in which, not a place was to be obtained for less than a guinea; and the best seats cost much dearer. In all the streets which commanded a view, however partial, the fronts were covered by scaffolds, divided

in some instances, as *half a guinea*: George I. excited so little curiosity, that the best seats commanded no more than *five shillings* each. But HIS CONSORT was not allowed to share in those honours.

latitudinarily into compartments or galleries, appearing, to the spectators below, like so many tiers of boxes, raised one above another, to the very roof; the fronts of which were covered with carpets, baize, cloth, or such richer materials as the more opulent could display. Some of the largest houses cleared a thousand pounds; and it is reported in '*Thomson's Coronation*,' whence most of these particulars have been extracted, that a clause is, or was inserted, in the leases of houses commanding a view of this great festival, whereby they revert to the landlords for a certain number of days each Coronation. Amongst the advertisements of the day, preparatory to this grand shew, were the following, *viz.*

"To be let, for the Coronation, a whole house in New Palace Yard, which has a full view of the Champion and Procession, with beds in it, and all other conveniences: the company to bring their own servants for their attendance; or it may be divided into separate companies, not less than twelve in each: all to be within doors. Inquire, &c."

"CORONATION.—Places to be let on scaffolding, in the front of a house in King-street, with the use of the furniture, and rooms adjoining to each story, with *all* convenient and necessary accommodations."—*Public Advertiser, Friday, Sept. 12, 1761.*

"CORONATION ROW.—To be let, for seeing the Procession, an entire first floor, consisting of a commodious balcony and dining-room, with a large bedchamber, in a substantial brick house, which commands an uninterrupted view of the procession and the spectators, for above 200 yards, and has a back-door, through which a most convenient access may be had directly into the house at any hour, without coming through the crowd. No house has a more convenient prospect of the procession or the company, nor more convenient accommodations."—*Public Advertiser, Saturday, 12th Sept. 1761.*

Amongst other *peculiarities* appertaining to the crisis, stood advertised for sale, were '*An Earl's and Countess's Coronet; Ermine at reduced prices.*'

Mr. CRAIG, in his Memoir of the Queen, p. 35, states, that an *Irish Earl*, having come over to England expressly to see the Coronation, paid fifty pounds for the seat he occupied in a gallery. Having been obliged to sit up all the preceding night, in the open air, he was so greatly fatigued, that he fell asleep the next day, whilst the procession was passing, in spite of all the efforts made by his neighbours to awake him!

She, unhappy woman! was a captive, and whilst her husband was thus magnificently crowned, sighed her life away within the gloomy walls of a half-dilapidated fortress, the blighted victim of his power, his cruelty, his injustice!

A hundred, and even two hundred guineas, were paid for second and third floors. In short, never was curiosity more powerfully excited, nor heavier contributions levied for its gratification.

“A dressed *rehearsal* took place on the 18th, four days preceding the grand performance; which was thus noticed in the Public Advertiser.”—Vide *Thomson's Coronation*, p. 64.

“Last night Westminster Hall was illuminated, and John Dymocke, Esq. put on his armour, and tried a *grey* horse, (which His late Majesty had rode at the battle of *Dettingen*,) before his Royal Highness the Duke of York, Prince Henry-Frederick, the Duke of Devonshire, Earl Talbot, and many other persons of distinction. There was also another grey, and four other horses, which were walked and rode several times up and down the Hall. Earl Talbot rode one of them, a very fine brown-bay horse, which his Lordship purposes to ride on the side of the Champion, on the coronation-day.”

“In the Gentleman's Magazine, for 1764, (says Mr. Thomson,) is an extract from a letter addressed to the Duke of Devonshire, which contains the following singular anecdote:

“It is publicly said too, that the young Pretender himself came from Flanders to see the Coronation; that he was in Westminster Hall during the Coronation, and in Town during two or three days before and after it, under the name of Mr. Brown; and being asked by a gentleman how he durst venture over, his answer was, that he was very safe. This relation (says Mr. Thomson) received additional strength from a part of a letter written by David Hume, in 1773, which is as follows; “But what will surprise you more, Lord Marshal, a few days after the coronation of the present King, told me that he believed the young Pretender was at that time in London, or, at least, had been so very lately, and had come over to see the show of the coronation, and had actually seen it. I asked my Lord the reason for this strange fact? ‘Why, (says he,) a gentleman told me, who saw him there, and whispered in his ear, ‘*Your Royal Highness is the last of all mortals whom I should expect to see here!*’—‘It was curiosity that led me, (said the other;) but I assure you, that the PERSON who is the cause of all this pomp and magnificence, is the man I envy the least.’

“It has also been reported, (continues Mr. Thomson,) in addition to these evidences, that when the Champion cast down his

When it is considered, that almost all the rites and ceremonies of the coronation were arranged by that bigot despot, James II. it will not be deemed surprising, that he endeavoured to cast all possible radiance on the priesthood, without, in any way or manner, acknowledging the power or the rights of the people. The priestly rites he assimilated as nearly as possible with the Romish Church. It reflects no credit on the Whigs of 1688, that they allowed William and Mary to be crowned, without both Houses of Parliament being present, and enforcing the most elaborate and formal acknowledgment of the right of the People, in case of the recurrence of despotic sway, to cashier their Monarch; and also, without imposing on the elected Sovereigns, as well as the abjuration of the Pope, or the belief in *transubstantiation*, the more important abjuration of the act of attempting, by force or by fraud, by the sword or by bribery, to aim at the subversion of the freedom of the People. This was an imperative duty, which those who had dethroned King James, and *for ever* excluded his unoffending progeny, ought to have done. It is a reproach to their memory, that they allowed a

gauntlet for the last time, a *white glove* fell from some of the spectators, who were in an elevated situation; and that, on its being handed to the Champion, he demanded ‘*Who was the fair foe?*’ supposing that some lady had accidentally dropped it. As soon as this circumstance became public, it was immediately connected with the young Chevalier, and the glove was said to have been thrown by him, who was present *in female attire*. That the latter might have been the case, seems, from the letters already cited, to be extremely probable; but it also appeared impossible that any one should hazard so much, as the throwing down a *gage* to the King’s Champion would bring upon him. Such was the light in which the affair was viewed at the time, and it soon passed away entirely disbelieved.”—(p. 66, 67.)

Amongst other rumours, equally vague and absurd, it was pretended that the ‘*legitimate*’ heir to the throne formally abjured the Roman Catholic religion at the New Church in the Strand, under his proper name, ‘CHARLES STUART.’

coronation to take place, with all the marks of an abhorrent feudal servitude retained; with all the dross of Papal superstitions, just filmed over by new rituals; with all the traits of that profound ignorance of the dark ages; without a single demonstration of the people of Great Britain and Ireland forming the source of sovereign power, and their welfare, freedom, and happiness, being its first object and sole end. The PRIESTHOOD took especial care of the interests of the Church; but, as to the People and their rights, they were overlooked, in every part of these demi-barbarous, demi-idolatrous ceremonies,—which, if viewed as the histrionic representation of ‘*olden times*,’ carry us back to the most degrading and afflicting part of our annals, when the descendants of the fierce and free Gothic-Saxons groaned beneath the bondage of the spurious Norman invaders,—when feudal tyranny, and clerical despotism, were at the top of their insolent dominion,—when the people, ignorant and brutalized, were less esteemed than the cattle that bled to deck the festive boards of savage and illiterate chieftains. If it had presented the more ancient and patriarchal manners of the great Alfred and his court; of our Gothic kings, in the days of Charlemagne,—then, indeed, there would have been something intrinsically attractive, on the contemplation of which, the philosopher and patriot might dwell with lingering pleasure. As the rites and ceremonies stood, on the coronation of George III. it was with the utmost difficulty he could be prevailed upon, by the *less religious* Archbishops, to approach the sacred altar, decorated in all the gaudy habiliments of the day, and appearing, in his own pure mind, more like a meretricious idol, set up by human craft, for popular worship, than a lowly and meek-hearted Christian, humbling himself before his Creator. The crown he laid aside, in despite of their remonstrances,

From the painful state of this amiable Sovereign's feelings, it is not likely that he took a very active share in arranging the theatrical part of the procession, dresses, and decorations; although the strict orders which were issued, most carefully to inspect the scaffolds and temporary structures, to prevent the spectators from suffering by the neglect or avarice of the proprietors, were more likely to have emanated from the Monarch, than any of his household officers, or any of the numerous train of haughty prelates, or dignitaries of the church, whose sable habiliments blackened the anti-chambers of monarchy.

On the 22d of September, before nine o'clock in the morning, the Sovereign and his Consort arrived at Westminster Hall; where, after some previous ceremonies, being seated at the upper end, (the Queen, in a chair of state, on the left side of the King,) the great officers of state presented the spurs and swords of state, and laid them on a table before the royal presence.

Then the Dean and Prebendaries, all, of course, in gala-dress, and regulated precedence, brought from the Abbey the Holy Bible, and the Regalia* of Great Britain; the whole of which was spread before the King and Queen. About eleven o'clock in the forenoon, the magnificent Procession began to move on its circuit from Westminster Hall, upon an elevated way, or platform, built of strong timber, railed in on each side. This commenced at the porch of the Hall in New Palace Yard, crossed in a slanting direction opposite to the end of Parliament-street; there it described a right line to the

* The present regalia of England is not of any very remote antiquity; for, in the wars of King Charles the First's reign, the former crowns, &c. were either lost, sold, or destroyed. Those which are now used were manufactured for the coronation of his son.—*Vide Thomson's Coronation*, p. 82.

end of King-street; thence in a slanting direction to the west end of the Abbey, where it entered the grand doors. This timber street, if so it may be called, was about five yards broad, and one yard in height, above the pavement; upon which floor the platform was raised about one foot above its level: so that the Procession were elevated about four feet from the ground. The officers on duty stood upon the floor, below the platform: the Guards, &c. were placed on the sides; and many gentlemen appeared that day in the dress of private soldiers, in order to obtain a better view of the Procession. The whole of this platform was covered with blue cloth. On account of the uncertainty of the weather, an awning had been prepared; but the day proving auspicious, it was removed. Preceded by an immense train, composed of the chiefs of every order in the kingdom, from the humble strewers of herbs, up to the princes of the blood, the KING and QUEEN appeared in such grotesque dresses, that had they been unexpectedly met elsewhere by the most intimate friend, it might still have been difficult to have recognized them. Their robes of state, crowns, jewels, and embellishments of all kinds, were oppressively heavy. The King, on this occasion, played well his important part: his port was truly dignified, without any of that *strutting*, which was so perceptible amongst the *little great*, who figured on this occasion. The Monarch was observed to appear occasionally very much flushed; the Queen, on the contrary, would have looked pale and wan, if means had not been used to *preserve* a rosy colour on her cheeks. Her want of stature was assisted by high-heeled shoes, and an erect, energetic walk; but still she appeared to disadvantage by the side of so tall a gentleman as her husband.

Comparing different accounts, it seems that, from the King and Queen leaving the Hall, till their

entrance into the Abbey, from an hour and a half to two hours must have elapsed: a tedious time to suffer, loaded as they were with regal trappings, and under the warm gleams of summer sunshine.

Within the Abbey, which was splendidly hung with rich tapestry, was a theatre or stage of three steps, built in the choir, covered with curious and costly carpeting; on which two thrones, or chairs of state, were placed. Eastward of these, and nearer St. Edward's chapel, were two other chairs, with desks, and kneeling cushions. Opposite the altar* was placed the ancient chair of St. Edward, in which the King was afterwards crowned and anointed.

The other erections in the Abbey, were the various seats and galleries for the Peers and Peeresses, great officers, and foreigners of distinction, the heralds, spectators, musicians, and others. The nave, choir, transept, every part of the spacious Abbey, was occupied by galleries, or scaffolding, with seats.

At half-past one Their Majesties entered the Abbey, and the service immediately commenced. During the anthem, the King and Queen passed along the body of the church: when they had arrived at their chairs of state, both were seated; and the Earl Marshal recognized the King as law-

* Just in the rear of this spot, a snug little place, consecrated to Cloacina, and intended for the use of none but the QUEEN, (or, perchance, her chief ladies,) was constructed; to which *convenience* the Queen retiring, she had the mortification to find the place pre-occupied by *the Duke of Newcastle!* It is but fair to add, that this is one of the amusing *thousand and one* tales of Horace Walpole; and, in fact, it *olfacts* pretty strongly of that peeping busy-body, whose prying nose nothing could escape, and whose babbling tongue no power on earth could stop, till it was mingled with the earth. This story matches with that respecting Bubb Doddington's breeches.

ful sovereign. The King then made his first oblation; the Queen's offering was next made, both their Majesties kneeling. They were next conducted to their chairs of state, on the south side of the altar; where they kneeled during the litany. During the sermon, the King, who had before been uncovered, wore a cap of crimson velvet, turned up with ermine.

When the sermon was concluded, the Archbishop of Canterbury went up to the King, and, standing before him, said,

"Is Your Majesty willing to make the Declaration?"

To which the King replied,

"I am willing."

The Archbishop then read the Declaration to support the Protestant religion, and abjuring Popery; which the King signed.

Next succeeded the CORONATION OATH—thus:

Archbishop—"Will you solemnly promise and swear to govern the people of this kingdom of Great Britain, and the dominions thereto belonging, according to the statutes in Parliament agreed on, and the respective laws and customs of the same?"

The King.—"*I solemnly promise so to do.*"

Archbishop.—"*Will you to your power cause LAW and JUSTICE, in MERCY, to be executed in all your judgments?*"*

The King.—"*I will.*"

Archbishop.—"*Will you, to the utmost of your power, maintain the laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant reformed Religion established by law? And will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government thereof, as by law established, within*

* Gibbon has somewhere finely observed, that where a King refuses to act as a JUDGE towards his people, he becomes the accomplice of the unjust. JAMES II. acted thus, and he died in exile.

the kingdoms of England, Ireland, the dominion of Wales, and town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, and the territories thereunto belonging, before the union of the two kingdoms? And will you preserve unto the bishops and clergy of England, and to the churches there committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges, as by law shall, or do appertain to them, or any of them?"

The King.—“*All these I promise to do.*”

The King then left his chair, and went uncovered to the altar, where, kneeling upon the steps, and laying his hand on the Holy Gospel, he said,

“The things which I have before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God.”

He then kissed the book, and signed the oath, as he had already done in the Declaration.

The third anthem was then sung: during which, the King and Queen were kneeling. After a prayer preparatory to the anointing, the King removed into the old CORONATION CHAIR, where he was anointed on the head, breast, and the palms of his hands, in the form of a cross; the same words being used each time.

The King then kneeled down, and the Archbishop of Canterbury pronounced the blessing, or benediction.

About half-past three o'clock, the Archbishop placed the crown, called St. Edward's, on the King's head, when the trumpets sounded, and the people shouted “**GOD SAVE THE KING!**” The Peers and Peeresses put on their coronets, &c. A signal being given, by lowering a flag on the top of the Abbey, the Park and Tower guns were immediately fired.

The act of homage being performed by the Princes of the Blood, and great officers of state, the Queen was next crowned by the Archbishop, and anointed, on which the Princesses and Peeresses put on their coronets. The Queen was then recon-

ducted to her throne, bowing most reverently to the King as she passed.

The solemn act of taking the sacrament next occurred, when the King gave a striking proof of humility and piety, which assuredly reflects the greatest credit on his memory.

Immediately after the anointing of the Queen was performed, the two Archbishops approached to hand the King down from the throne, to receive the sacrament, the crown, called St. Edward's, being still on his head. He said to them, "*My Lord Archbishops, I WILL NOT go to partake of the Lord's supper with this crown upon my head; for I look upon myself in no other light, when appearing before the King of kings, than a devout and humble Christian.*" These were his very words; and they are worthy of being for ever treasured, from the humility of soul, and SINCERITY of religious belief, which they evinced. The Archbishops, seeing he was DETERMINED, told the young Monarch, that although there was *no precedent for such conduct*, his royal will should be obeyed. *Immediately the King put off his crown, and laid it aside!* He then desired that the same might be done by the Queen's crown. On being informed that this superb ornament was pinned on so tight, that it could not conveniently be taken off, he said, "*Well, it may remain; but let it be considered as a part of her dress, and in no other light.*" These traits shew, that the King, as the HEAD OF THE CHURCH, possessed more humility, and more religious piety, and set a better example, than the Archbishops, Bishops,* or any of the *dignitaries!*

* One of the old gardeners, so often referred to, heard the King say to Lord Bute, as they stood in the Queen's flower-garden, Buckingham House, "*I pity those kings who had to endure two or three coronations!* I was so wearied with the Gothic ceremonies, so displeased with the service, and painfully affected

Every part denotes the predominating spirit of the Clergy, at the time when these rituals were settled. The Archbishop crowns the Monarch, after having, in a manner, made him swear fealty to *the Church*; and then, taking precedence of every other order, this lordly priest renders homage for himself and his fraternity. The Queen is then anointed on the breast; the ring, the crown, the ivory rod, with the dove, are then brought, and the King's Consort was invested with the same; she was then blessed by the Archbishop, and conducted back to her former seat near the altar.

"The King's whole behaviour, (said Dr. Thomas Newton, Bishop of Bristol,) was justly admired and commended by every one, and particularly his manner of seating himself on the throne after the coronation. No actor in the character of Pyrrhus, in the Distressed Mother, not even Booth himself, who was celebrated for it in the Spectator, (No. 335,) ever ascended the throne with so much ease and dignity."

The coronation being thus performed, which consumed the tedious time of six hours, the return of the Procession was so late, that the spectators on the scaffolds, outside the Abbey, had but a dim and imperfect view of it; and those in Westminster Hall were still worse off, being involved in *utter* darkness until a short time before the Procession entered, when the whole interior was lighted by *three thousand wax candles*.*

by the relics of Popish rites and tenets, that I would not, on any consideration, submit to it again." Here was no objection to the oaths to support the Church or State; but simply to the ceremonial forms. After His Majesty had retired to his bed-room this night, he composed a prayer, supplicating the blessing of God upon his reign; and, perhaps, alluding to the *rituals* he had been, in a manner, compelled to adopt. The prayer, it is said, was observed by his attendants the next morning.

* *Gas lights* would throw an incomparable lustre on the scene, and shew the whole height and extent of this vast Hall, to the

During the return of the stately Monarch and his splendid train back to the Hall, the most valuable jewel in his crown* was said to have fallen out, and, on being found, honestly returned. On both occasions, the martial music, and the acclamations of an innumerable multitude, produced sounds so loud, that the loudest thunder could scarcely have obtained a hearing.

The coronation dinner next took place; and perhaps, of all the dinners of which George III. ever partook, he had the least relish for this. The royal table was set on an elevated platform, at the head of the Hall: those for the court and nobles were spread longitudinally, on either side of that capacious room. The upper part of the royal board was shared between the Sovereign and his bride. At his right hand, sat the Dukes of York and Cumberland; the opposite end was occupied by the Princess Augusta,† mother of the reigning Queen. During this gorgeous feast, where nobles, superbly clad, waited instead of menials, and a flourish of shrill-toned trumpets proclaimed each royal draught, the hereditary CHAMPION, John

greatest possible advantage. Perhaps it may be adopted on the approaching coronation of GEORGE IV. and Queen CAROLINE.

* This singular accident gave rise to many speculative opinions at the time it occurred. The credulous and superstitious part of the community, (and these were no inconsiderable body,) unanimously construed it as an inauspicious omen. When the unhappy contest with the Colonists of North America, lost Great Britain that arm of her power, then this contingency was recollected, and bandied from one to another. At one of the sea-ports, a new ship was built, of which the figure-head was an Atlas, bearing a terrestrial globe; cutting away part of which, to make room for the bowsprit, the carpenters chopped off *North America!* The latter fact is quoted from memory.

† The Princess Dowager, and the junior branches of the family, had a box to themselves to see the coronation, and dined in an apartment adjoining the hall.

Dymock,* Esq, made his entrance on horseback. He was clad in the finest suit of white armour, in the royal armoury, and mounted on a milk-white steed, which George II. had rode at the battle of Dettingen, superbly caparisoned, and thus attended, viz.

Two Trumpets, with the Champion's arms on the banners.

The Serjeant Trumpeter, with his mace.

The Champion's two Esquires, richly habited, the one carrying his lance erect upon the right hand, and the other his shield, with his arms depicted thereon, upon the left.

A herald at arms, depicted thereon, upon the left.

A herald at arms, in his tabard and collar, holding a paper, containing the words of the challenge.

The Earl Marshal on horseback, in his robes and coronet, holding his Marshal's staff.	<i>The</i> CHAMPION,† Completely armed, on horseback, holding a gauntlet (a glove of mail) in his hand, and having his helmet on his head, the visor, or face-piece, up, ornamented with a plume of feathers, red, white, & blue.	The Lord High Constable, on horseback, in his robes and coronet, holding his Constable's staff.
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Four pages, richly dressed, attendant on the Champion.

* The Hon. Lewis Dymock, hereditary Champion, perhaps the son or heir of the above gentleman, died very lately, at his seat in Lincolnshire. The next heir is said to be a PARSON, who will appear, rather *out* of character, in calling bad names, and challenging unknown enemies to mortal combat!

† There is probably no part of the coronation ceremony so popularly interesting, as the Champion's challenge; for it is a kind of scenic exhibition, which fixes itself on the mind, and seems an undecayed fragment of England's former chivalric exercises. Rapin relates, that the first mention of a King's Champion appearing at a coronation, was in 1377, at the crowning of Richard II. He supposes, that the office was of much greater antiquity, since the *then* Champion claimed it by virtue of his Manor of Scrivelsby; which evidently shews, that the duty was vested in that Manor. Philip de Marmyun, who lived in the time of Henry III. is known to have been the King's Champion; and some writers suppose, that the office existed prior to the Norman conquest.—So far Mr. Thomson. Scotland had her Champion too: an ancestor of Sir Robert Dalryell, Bart. of Binns, near Edinburgh. A lineal descendant of his, J. G. Dalryell, Esq. brother to

The passage to their Majesties' table being cleared by the Knight Marshal, the Herald at Arms, with a loud voice, proclaimed the Champion's Challenge at the lower end of the Hall, in the following words:

"If any person, of what degree soever, high or low, shall deny or gainsay our Sovereign Lord George III. King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Grandson, and next Heir to our Sovereign Lord, George the Second, the last King, deceased, to be the right Heir of the Imperial Crown* of the realm of Great Britain, or that he

Sir Robert, Vice-President of the Royal Scotch Antiquarian Society, sent, in 1814, the following interesting particulars to the Author of this Memoir: *viz.*

"We read also of a Sir WILLIAM DALYELL, a Scottish Champion, who was celebrated at the battle of Otterburne, in 1388, where he lost an eye: all the chronicles of the time dwelt exultingly on his prowess. Tournaments being then in fashion, he repaired to the English Court, on the restoration of peace, when one of his countrymen gained a signal victory over another knight. But this was not unproductive of jealousy; for it was alleged, although there might be brave men in Scotland, they had sprung from the illicit intercourse of Scottish ladies with Englishmen who had conquered their country. Indignant at this aspersion, Sir William Dalyell retorted, that even if the allegation were true, it was equally certain, that the English warriors came from men of ignoble birth, whom the ladies of England had not disdained to receive as temporary partners, during the absence of their lords in the neighbouring kingdom. This led to a more serious contest, in which Sir PIERS COURTENAY, an ENGLISH CHAMPION, challenged Sir WILLIAM DALYELL to single combat; but, after an eminent display of courage on both sides, he was wounded by his antagonist, but without the victory having been declared for the Scottish knight: the honour of each was satisfied."

The *Scotti-Chronicon* says, "The combat took place in the presence of RICHARD II. in 1399." The historians say, "The helmet of the Scottish knight was lost twice successively in the first two courses; but in the third, his weapon struck out two of the English Champion's fore teeth. Sir WILLIAM DALYELL was not wounded on this occasion."

* Although Great Britain is indebted to WILLIAM PITT, for an *Imperial House of Commons*, England, even under her GOTHIC kings, claimed the honours of an *Imperial Crown*, as the following curious extract will prove: *viz.*

ought not to enjoy the same; here is his Champion, who saith that *he lieth, and is a false traitor*, being ready in person to combat with him; and in this quarrel will adventure his life against him, on what day soever shall be appointed."

The Champion then threw down his gauntlet, which, having laid a short time, was taken up by the herald.

The Champion next advanced in the same order to the middle of the Hall, where the herald made proclamation as before; and passed by to the foot of the steps, when the herald, and those who preceded him, going to the top of the steps, made proclamation a third time, at the end whereof, the Champion again cast down his gauntlet, which, after some time, being taken up, and returned him by the herald, he made a low bow to His Majesty. Then the cup-bearer brought to the King a gilt bowl of wine, with a cover: *His MAJESTY drank to the CHAMPION*, and sent him the bowl by the cup-bearer. This the Champion, having put on the gauntlet, received, and retiring a little, drank thereof, again making his humble reverence to His Majesty; and being accompanied as before, rode out of the Hall, *taking the bowl and cover with him, as his fee.**

"EGO EDGARUS, *Altonantis Dei largiflua clementia, Anglorum Basileus, omniumque Regum, Insularumque, Oceanique, Britanniam circumjacentis, cunctarumque nationum quæ infra eam includentur, IMPERATOR et Dominus.* He was also called, '*Albionis Imperator.*'"

Translated.

"I EDGAR, *by the bountiful clemency of the High-thundering God, King of the English, EMPEROR, and Lord of all the Kings, Islands, and Seas circumjacent to Britain, and of all the nations included therein.*" He was styled in another place, "EMPEROR of ALBION." —Vide *Howard's Collection, State Papers, &c.* Vol. I. p. 413.

* This custom is decidedly of GOTHIC origin, and evinced the highest regard a King could shew to a Hero.

The King was then proclaimed in Latin, French, and English: in the latter tongue, thus:

“The Most High, Most Mighty, and Most Excellent Monarch, GEORGE the THIRD, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith.”

The second course was then served up, with the same ceremonies as the first; and several of the services, allowed by the Court of Claims, were afterwards performed.

The Peeresses, by the courtesy of their Majesties, about ten o'clock at night, began to withdraw, in order, as much as possible, to avoid the crowd which was assembled to view this costly and splendid pageantry.* A short time afterwards, the King and Queen departed, in the same manner as they came; when, according to *ancient custom*, the Hall doors were immediately thrown open, and the multitude admitted, when every thing that remained of the festival was seized upon, and carried away.†

Such were the leading features of the coronation festival,‡ of which Horace Walpole thus expressed himself, in a letter to a friend: “The coronation is

* The Knights of the Bath were wholly forgotten, and had no table provided. Amongst all the solemn grandeur of the day, even the *Peers*, at their tables, almost fought for food; and the ladies in the galleries tied their handkerchiefs together, to reach a fowl, or bottle of wine, at the tables below. And doubtlessly many a person entirely ruined their health by the privations of that day.

† Many others nearly lost their lives by engaging in this dangerous scene of brutal violence to share the relics of the feast. But some persons gained prizes; and Mr. Henry Whittaker obtained a glass, out of which Her Majesty had drunk. It is to be hoped, in the ensuing coronation, this scene of uproar will be omitted, and the relics be more usefully distributed.

‡ It was recently asserted in the London Courier, that the coronation robes, &c. of an Earl and his wife, cost £1000! The costumes, processions, ceremonies, &c. not given in the preceding sketches, shall be given in the Appendix, if there is space.

over: 'tis even a more gorgeous sight than I imagined. I saw the procession and the Hall; but the return was in the dark. In the morning they had forgot the *sword of state*, the *chairs for the King and Queen*,* and the canopies. They used the Lord Mayor's sword for the first, and *made* the last in the Hall, so that they did not set forth till noon; and then, by a childish compliment to the King, reserved the illumination of the Hall for his entry, by which means they arrived like a funeral, nothing being discernible but the plumes of the Knights of the Bath, which seemed the hearse."

Taking his leave of a festival, into the details of which the Editor has gone much deeper than he intended, rather than omit any thing essentially belonging to the personal history of the King, he returns to a part of his narrative, which he passed over, to connect the royal amour, the state nuptials, and coronations.

There is no doubt, from the manner in which Mr. Pitt was treated by the young King at the first council where the latter presided, that the dismissal of the former had been previously determined upon. And the extracts from '*the Diary*' prove to what despicable and most dishonourable expedients the Earl of Bute descended, to attain official rank and emolument, and yet conceal the rampant avarice and ambition by which he was impelled.

The Earl of Holderness, having been properly wrought upon, resigned at a period so auspicious

* It is to be hoped the QUEEN'S CHAIR OF STATE *will not be FORGOTTEN* on the ensuing CORONATION. The Editor will insert the provision made by the nation, for Charlotte of Mecklenburg, and the magnificent establishment allotted to her. CAROLINE of BRUNSWICK, the *disconsolate* consort of GEORGE IV. the mother of the beloved and regretted Princess CHARLOTTE, with whom the flower of the family, and the HOPE of the nation, sickened and died—has claims still stronger on the gratitude and support of the British Empire.

to the cupidity of the Earl of Bute, that the latter obtained the immense profit which *then* accumulated from the renewal of commissions passing through the Home Secretary's office, the extent of which was variously stated, and, by some writers, carried to the prodigious sum of *two hundred thousand pounds*. This removal was rather the effect of compromise than of secret enmity; but that of Mr. LEGGE was brought about by the machinations of the minion, to avenge a refusal of that gentleman to yield up his seat. Lord Talbot, whose name occurred in the coronation show, and whose abilities as a horseman, though so much applauded, was perhaps inferior to the dexterity of either of Astley's boys. This nobleman is said to have made a great parade, for having introduced a *rigid economy* into the royal kitchens; diminishing the quantity of roast-beef and plum-pudding, the number of menials, such as scullions and housemaids, and deprived the inferior domestics of most of their privileges heretofore enjoyed, of occasionally seeing a friend, and regaling him with a horn of the King's ale, or a slice of his beef. The young King, wholly ignorant perhaps, that his household officers had not only reformed abuses, but deprived many old servants of all their comforts, and turned many adrift, who had no refuge but the charity of their friends, or a poor-house, was taking, according to custom, an early walk; he looked into a cottage, and saw a woman busily at work, scrubbing a grate. With her the young Monarch, most likely for the sake of information, began a conversation relative to the recent changes in the King's kitchens. The woman knew the King; but taking no other notice of him, than if he had been one of the upper servants, she gave him a striking illustration of the meanness and parsimony which had taken place of the plenty and liberality that reigned under George II. The

King, nettled at what he had heard, said to her, "Perhaps, my poor woman, you are one of the sufferers, as you seem to understand the affairs of these retrenchments so well. Are you not turned out of your place?"—"Yes, I am, Sir; thanks to the *new Lord, the new King, and new laws*. Whilst the old King was alive, I did not clean grates; I was an upper housemaid; but this young King, who is penny wise and pound foolish, has turned every thing topsy-turvy. In his great economy, he has turned off four housemaids, who have eight pounds a year, to take in TWELVE more of those *queer fellows*, Bedchamber Lords, who have some thousands each for doing nothing." The King, hurt and mortified, did not wait to hear any more, but finding, on inquiry, that the woman had told the truth, he not only caused her to be restored, but many others, and strictly commanded that the menial servants' table should be supplied in every thing as liberally, and the same indulgencies allowed, as had been enjoyed under his Grandfather.*

The creation of the twelve costly places may be considered as the first great mark of the new policy of *governing by patronage*, adopted by George III.; *the effects* of which are, at this instant, (1820,) so fully appreciated, and deeply deplored.

The great proportion of the ensuing reign, which was occupied by war, or in warlike demonstrations, render it probable that Lord BUTE's efforts to influence the King to conclude a peace, had their origin in his (Bute's) inordinate lust of power, and his insidious course of policy. At the same time,

* A Mrs. Brooker, of Windsor Castle, who used to board several of the royal domestics, and to receive all the dishes that came from the King's table whilst the Court was at Windsor, related this curious story; which is partly inserted in the Rev. Mr. Cibber's *Georgiana*, p. 44.

however great had been the services rendered by Mr. Pitt, and his associate Whigs, it is also likely they might have been too strongly impelled by a desire of further warlike triumphs; and too inattentive to the maxim, that a war which is continued after a safe and honourable peace might have been commanded, is a war of aggression, and, as such, ceases to be either just or necessary.

From those superior sources of intelligence which the great talents and high reputation of Mr. PITT commanded, he had obtained a copy of the *secret treaty* which had then taken place between the kings of France and Spain; and he also knew, that as soon as the Spanish Register ships should have entered the ports of the mother country, the alliance was to be published, and hostilities against England to commence. With all the warmth of his nature, and high feeling for the honour and safety of his native country, he urged the Cabinet to declare war against Spain,—if possible, intercept her South American resources,—seize upon her ships and commerce in British harbours,*—sweep the seas, and blockade her ports. Lord BUTE and his creatures had no other weapons than *an affected love of peace*; but their tone and manner fully

* Under such circumstances, the measure might have been justifiable; but the *principle* of seizing ships, merchandise, or persons, prior to an open declaration of war, is incompatible with the law of nations, and the dictates of honesty. The rigid dominion exercised over the maritime rights of all other nations, during the late wars, gave rise to the anti-commercial, or *Continental system*, under the effects of which, the resources of Great Britain, which depended upon foreign commerce, are every hour declining, without a ray of hope of any permanent change, till it is purchased, not alone by the *renunciation* of the restrictive system of commerce, but, in every probability, by the entire abandonment of those odious claims to extended blockades, including the coasts of whole nations; and the sale of licences, permitting, for the increase of British revenue, unlimited violations of those sweeping blockades, which has been so universally condemned.

proved, that if Mr. Pitt had declared for peace, they would have been for war! Mr. PITT and Lord TEMPLE were alike convinced of this factious spirit predominating, and they had scarcely patience to observe the rules of good-breeding towards the shackled and perfidious followers of a court MINION, who, fearful that the popularity of Mr. Pitt might give rise to events fatal to his ambitious views of self-aggrandizement, hit upon an expedient worthy of the crafty politician in whose brain it had originated. “*Be pleased to explain, (said one of Bute’s cabal,) the source of your intelligence relative to the secret treaty between France and Spain; shew us ocular, tangible proof, of its existence, and we will immediately agree to your proposals.*” The proud and indignant Minister saw the snare. His own feelings as a gentleman forbade his breaking his word of honour, which was pledged to the person who had supplied him with the important document; and he could not be ignorant, that if he had weakly complied, Lord Bute’s subalterns would have triumphed over his honour, and have held him up to the execration of all Europe, for having betrayed so important a confidence. Thus encompassed with perfidy and imbecility, he said, “*I declare, upon mine honour, that my intelligence is authentic, and that I have a copy of the treaty of alliance in my pocket. Will this declaration satisfy your demands? Will you yet ask of me to expose the person or persons who furnished me with this document, to the vengeance of our enemies, and cut off all future confidence in British honour?*” Lord Granville made a haughty reply, and reiterated the unreasonable, because an insidious, demand. With looks marked by pride and indignation, Mr. Pitt, after a pause, said, solemnly and emphatically, “NO! I WILL NOT BETRAY THE MAN WHO HAS CONFIDED TO MY SECRECY AND HONOUR.” The question was put to the vote, and not a voice, except that of Lord TEMPLE, sup-

ported Mr. PITT! In this manner, and by those dirty intrigues, was Great Britain deprived of the services of the most able minister that ever presided in her councils; and thus, owing to the overwhelming popularity of the King, and the most scandalous abuse of his name, triumphed a corrupt and insolent Court Minion over a great and public-spirited Minister, whom the public voice had placed in the Cabinet of George II. In the note which Mr. Pitt delivered to the Cabinet, but addressed to the King, he said—

“ I thank the Ministers of the late King for their support. But, as I was called to the Ministry by the voice of the People, I consider myself accountable to them for my conduct; and I do not chuse to remain longer in a situation, which makes me responsible for measures I am allowed no longer to guide.”

Influenced by the counsel, and probably deceived by the artifices, of Lord BUTE, the King suffered this great man to retire, without expressing a wish that he should resume the seals. But the work of Lord BUTE was not yet complete. He knew full well, that if Mr. PITT retired without being *neutralized* by a title and a pension, so boundless was the confidence of the nation in his talents and integrity, that the public voice would carry him back to the Cabinet in triumph, and drive thence every person by whom he had been thus treacherously opposed. The enemies of Mr. PITT, and of British liberty, triumphed! In a moment of weakness, his understanding failed. He was tempted, and, as a statesman, he fell to rise no more. Lord BUTE's followers were the loudest to revile the Ex-Minister for having accepted a pension, for *three* lives, of three thousand per annum, secured on the four-and-half per cent. *Barbadoes Duties** and an Earl-

* The celebrated EDMUND BURKE, at a later period of the reign, was placed upon the Barbadoes duties: more recently, the Misses HUNS, sisters of GEORGE CANNING, were provided for

dom. No sooner had Mr. PITT agreed to accept those marks of Court favour, than the unprincipled minion, proud of his triumph, gave the signal to his hireling gang of political toad-eaters; who, falling foul of the hitherto spotless fame of Mr. PITT, exulted in what they termed *his apostasy*, proclaiming aloud, that for the sake of a peerage and a pension, the *immaculate patriot* had abandoned the People, and accepted a general retainer from the Court! Too late Mr. PITT saw his weakness in its true colours. He chafed and foamed, like the high-mettled steed; but the saddle was upon his back, the curb in his mouth, and Lord BUTE, the rider, drove his spurs with unmerciful fury into his sides, and every attempt to retrieve his popularity failed! So great was the odium which this conduct had entailed on Mr. PITT, that he felt it necessary to write to Alderman Beckford, in which the following expressions occurred: *viz.*

"I resigned the seals on Monday, the 5th of this month, in order not to remain responsible for measures which I was no longer allowed to guide. Most gracious public marks of His Majesty's approbation of my services followed my resignation. They are unmerited and UNSOLICITED; and I shall be ever proud to have received them from the best of Sovereigns."

From this moment JOHN Earl of BUTE appeared at the HEAD of the King's Ministers.

at the expense of the Barbadian planters; one of whom lately addressed a very severe letter to the representative for Liverpool, *denying* the legality of the grant, and reproaching that able political partisan, in a strain as coarse as any of Mr. Canning's *disinterested* philippics against Parliamentary reformists. Just at this period, (May, 1820,) the Hon. Mr. BENNETT moved, in the House of Commons, for 'a copy of the act of the Assembly of Barbadoes, in 1663, to shew that the ladies and gentlemen who were quartered on that fund, had no legal claim to their pensions.' It is not an easy task to remove a bull-dog that has seized a bull by the nose; but infinitely more difficult is it to disengage a keen placeman from feeding on the revenues of the state.

Upon the 5th of November, the new Parliament, the first of the reign of George the Third, assembled. The present speech was unquestionably the minister's, except the paragraph which related to the QUEEN: this was perhaps his whose stamp it bears, namely,

"I DARE say your affectionate regard for me and the QUEEN makes you go before me in what I am next to mention; the making an ADEQUATE and HONOURABLE provision for her support, in case she should survive me. This is what not only her royal dignity, but her own merit, calls for; and I earnestly recommend it to your consideration."

The House of Commons acted most liberally. On the 19th of the same month, being the first open day, the House of Lords and the House of Commons passed resolutions, that a provision should be made for the Queen, of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS PER ANNUM DURING HER LIFE, together with Somerset House (which was exchanged for Buckingham House) and the lodge and lands at Richmond Old Park; another, appointing the funds whence the Queen's dowry was to be paid; and a third resolution went to prepare a bill for legally enacting these gifts and privileges. These bills preceded all inquiry into public grievances, and were passed unanimously. The act was prepared by the 30th; and the next day, (December 1st,) the King, to compliment his Bride, whose good qualities gained hourly more and more upon him, went in great state to the House to give his royal assent, although no other bill was then in readiness.

A chair of state having been prepared, this HAPPY and FAVOURED QUEEN, magnificently dressed and adorned with a profusion of the richest gems, sat at the King's right hand. The Commons being sent for, the Speaker addressed the King, eulogizing the Queen in the most courtly

strain, and as soon as the bill had passed into a law, by receiving the royal assent, the Queen arose, and made a very lowly *obeisance* to the King; a mark of homage that was equally becoming in her, and flattering to the Sovereign, although it was severely criticized and condemned by some eminent writers at the time it happened, appearing, as they observed, as if every thing had been bestowed by the King, and nothing by the people.* The amount of the provision made for the Queen, was also objected to by some political writers of eminence, who contended, that far the greater part was destined to feed the cupidity of those whom it was not thought expedient to place upon the pension list. The Queen's popularity, early as it was, had been impaired by the belief that she favoured Lord BUTE, and had been a leading cause of the rude treatment by the Cabinet which Mr. PITT† had experienced. As to her conduct in exclusively thanking the Sovereign for those largesses, it is not likely, educated as the Queen had been, that she cherished any very ardent feelings of reverence or gratitude towards the Lords or Commons; but, if she had been duly impressed with the fact, that all her ample allowances had emanated from the nation, the Queen would still have acted with the utmost propriety, in confining her acknowledgments to the Sovereign, who sat on his throne as the sole representative of the British Parliament.

* Mr. Macfarlane, the historian, who was one of the writers who found fault with the Queen's apparent neglect of the nation, observed, "The first magistrates of the Roman people bowed their faces to the people, acknowledging their superiority. England (said he) is not so far advanced in freedom."

† Amongst other causes for the dismissal, or rather, for the permitted retirement of Mr. PITT from office, the late W. A. Miles, Esq. who, for many years, was the intimate friend and confidential correspondent of the second WILLIAM PITT, informed the Editor, in 1809, that Mr. Pitt asserted his father's dismissal was

The following statement is descriptive of the ample establishment provided for the late QUEEN: *viz.*

Great Chamberlain of her Court, the Duke of Manchester.

Vice-Chamberlain, Lord Cantalupe.

Mistress of the Wardrobe, the Duchess of Ancaster.

LADIES of the BEDCHAMBER.

The Duchess of Hamilton; Countesses of Effingham, Northumberland, Egremont, Weymouth, Bolingbroke.

MAIDS of HONOUR.

The Honourable Miss Diana Beauclerk, Wrottesley, Bishop, Keck, Meddowes, Tryon.

BEDCHAMBER WOMEN.

Mrs. Dashwood, Tracy, Herbert, Brudenel, Boughton, Bloodworth.

Semstress and Laundress, Mrs. Chetwynd.

accelerated by the machinations of the Queen, whose dislike to the King of Prussia was inveterate, and whose study it was, to the very utmost of her power, to second the policy pursued by Lord BUTE: and further, that the latter had contrived to persuade the Queen of Mr. PITT having been averse to her as a consort for the King, and one, who under the plea of regard to public economy, would endeavour, as far as possible, to circumscribe her revenue. The generally received opinion was, that the King expressed his regret in very strong terms at the loss of so able a Minister, and, as a proof of the sincerity of his heart, offered that great statesman any reward in his power to bestow constitutionally, at the same time avowing his personal approbation of the conduct of the *majority* of the Cabinet! Mr. Miles flatly contradicted the current report, that the Minister was overpowered by the nobleness of this procedure, and also the emotions imputed to Mr. PITT, and his exclaiming, "I confess, Sire, I had but too much reason to expect Your Majesty's displeasure: I did not come for this exceeding goodness—pardon me, Sire, it overpowers, it oppresses me," and his bursting into tears. On the contrary, Mr. Wm. Pitt, his son, declared that his father had the utmost repugnance to the title and the pension, proudly remarking, that the Speaker, ONSLOW, was as liberally rewarded for services which bore no proportion in point of magnitude to his, and asserted, that he was *entrapped* into an acceptance he could not afterwards decline, without personally offending the King.

GENTLEMEN USHERS of the PRIVY CHAMBER.

Sir James Calder, Mr. Stanhope, Mr. Boyle.

GENTLEMEN USHERS, DAILY WAITERS.

Messrs. Jenkinson,* Allen, Molyneaux.

GENTLEMEN USHERS, QUARTERLY WAITERS.

Messrs. Robinson, Causlaid, Hubert.

PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Letherland, and Dr. Akenside.—Household Physician,
Dr. Pringle.—Surgeon, Mr. Pennel Hawkins.

Surgeon to the Household, Mr. Thomas Gataker.

Apothecary, Mr. Brande.

Apothecary to the Household, Mr. John Devaynes.

PAGES of the BACK STAIRS.

Messrs. Nicolai, Chapman, White, Weybrow.

PAGES of the PRESENCE.

Messrs. Valatin and Sutherland.

Necessary Woman to the private Apartments, Mrs. Moore.

Necessary Woman to the Public Apartments, Mrs. Coggshead.

Treasurer, Andrew Stone, Esq.

Secretary, David Græhm, Esq.†

Comptroller, the Hon. Sewallis Shirley.

Solicitor-General, Mr. De Gray.

Attorney-General, Mr. Hussey.

Master of the Horse, Earl of Harcourt.

EQUERRIES.

Lient.-Col. Montgomery, Capt. Harcourt, Mr. John Schutz.

PAGES of HONOUR.

Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Pyne.

One—Clerk of the Stables.

One—Bottle-man.

* Was this Mr. Charles Jenkinson, father to the Earl of Liverpool?

† This was the individual said to have been selected by Lord BUTE to visit the petty courts of Germany, in search of a wife for George III. If this be true, Lord BUTE must have acted diametrically opposite to the inclinations of the Princess Dowager of Wales, and probably unknown to that lady.

Eight—Footmen for the Queen.

Three—For the Master of the Horse.

Two—Grooms.

Five—Postillions.

Five—Helpers.

Four—Chairmen.

Such was the magnificent establishment awarded the late Queen; amongst the individuals composing which, many unpopular names are discoverable, who lay under the imputation of being the creatures of Lord BUTE. The late Queen has often been illiberally reproached for patronizing German favourites; but, in the above list, there is no proof of that unjust partiality towards foreigners, which has so frequently been imputed to her.*

* Alluding to this subject, Mr. CRAIG writes, "That she (the Queen) should have felt a love for her country, and a desire to serve its inhabitants, is a proof of an amiable mind, and good people would have a right to despise her, if she had not felt it; but the Queen was too just to let this sentiment go further. It is true she brought over a small number of foreigners with her; but they held no office whatever in the royal establishment, till vacancies had occurred, by death or advancement, amongst those appointed in the first instance by the King. I am authorized to say, (continued he,) that Her Majesty *never* did express even the slightest wish to remove an English servant, in order to make room for one of her own country."—*Vide* p. 549.

CHAPTER XV.

Visit of the King and Queen to the Lord Mayor and Citizens of London.—Singular honours paid to the BARCLAYS, a Quaker family.—Original Anecdotes.—Pride and Folly rebuked.—Description of the Civic Feast at Guildhall.—Innovation.—Remarks thereon.—A Contrast, or Luxury and Misery, both in extremes.—Buckingham House.—Anecdotes of its Founder.—Domestic Life of GEORGE III.—REMINISCENCES of JOHN LOWE.—Humanity of the King: his regulations amongst his work-people.—Original Anecdotes.—The late Queen's natural disposition defined.—More genuine Anecdotes.—Liberality of the late Queen.—Her reforms of the Royal Household.—Perfidy exposed and punished.—GEORGE III. restrains from the Chace, and wherefore.—His demeanour towards his Queen.—Antipathy of Queen Charlotte to the mother of the reigning QUEEN.—Hereditary Misfortune.—Popular Rumours.—Groundless Calumnies.—Examination into the real Character of Queen CHARLOTTE.—The folly of inordinate praise.

DURING the coronation ceremonies, the Lord Mayor, and principal citizens of London, had probably been spectators of the pageant; whilst those great personages who presided, from the laborious duties they had to perform, and the strict etiquette by which their motions were regulated, had but an imperfect view of the gorgeous festival.

The QUEEN is therefore said to have requested the King to permit her, from the house of some citizen, to see the Lord Mayor and Aldermen pass in grand procession on the approaching city festival. The King, as well from regard to ancient custom, as in compliance with the wish of his

young bride, caused the Lord Mayor, existent and elect, to be acquainted with the destined honours of a royal visit; and active and extensive preparations took place, to provide the most magnificent feast ever given by the City of London, to pay due honour to their Majesties' and the Royal Family's intended visit.*

When the important day arrived, the King, Queen, and Royal Family, set out from St. James's Palace, dressed in the most superb style, and in their state-carriages.

The first of the Royal train was the Duke of Cumberland, whose coach was drawn by six horses, preceded and followed by a party of horse-guards.

Next, appeared the Princess Amelia, in her carriage, drawn also by six horses, and attended in the same manner as the Duke her brother.

The junior Princes, brothers to the King, followed in one carriage, attended by a party of the royal guards.

The Princess Dowager of Wales, accompanied by the eldest and youngest of her numerous offspring, the Princesses Augusta and Matilda, followed her sons, in a superb coach, preceded by twelve footmen in state liveries, and escorted by a large retinue of guards.

The great officers of the Royal Household, the Earl of Harcourt, in his chariot and four, and the Dukes of Rutland and Devonshire, in a second chariot and four, their servants in rich liveries, and

* For the sake of connecting the parliamentary proceedings relative to the Queen's dowry, and state establishment; the description of a grand visit paid by their Majesties to the City of London, on LORD MAYOR'S DAY, 1761, was reserved for the present Chapter. The manner in which the King, Queen, and Royal Family, were received and entertained, was such as became the first city in the British dominions.

their horses superbly caparisoned, followed the Princess Dowager.

George III. and Queen Charlotte, arrayed in gala-dress, and apparently in high health and spirits, sat in their state-coach, drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, surrounded and followed by the yeomen of the guard, and the horse-grenadiers. Such was the regulated order of precedence in which the King, Queen, and Royal Family, visited the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of London.

A cavalcade so splendid, and which exhibited so many persons belonging to the reigning Family, added to the usual attraction of a Lord Mayor's day, drew forth hundreds of thousands of spectators: and although the King's popularity was, to a certain extent, impaired by the recent changes in his councils, and the justly dreaded ascendancy of Lord BUTE, he was received, as he approached his state-coach with his Queen, in the most flattering manner, and hailed with the lively acclamations which accompanied him the whole of his way to and from the city.

The four regiments of London militia were under arms early in the morning, and continued so till late in the evening.

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, &c. met at the Mansion House, in more than common state, and went in procession to the Three Cranes' stairs,* where they embarked in their gala-barges, superbly adorned, and proceeded by water to Westminster, where his Lordship, according to ancient usage, was sworn in before the Barons of the Exchequer.

Their Majesties, and their brilliant Court, proceeded onwards to the city, through crowded

* Blackfriars bridge was then being built: the Three Cranes was the ancient place of embarkation on these occasions.

streets, and rejoicing inhabitants. In many places scaffoldings had been erected, decorated as at the coronation; every where, within view, the house-tops were covered with eager spectators, and the windows generally filled with handsome well-dressed females.

Near the eastern side of St. Paul's Cathedral, a spacious scaffold was erected, for the reception of the boys belonging to Christ's Hospital; nearly a thousand of whom, dressed in new clothes, formed a very interesting part of the spectacle. The head boy belonging to the grammar school, as the King's carriage approached, read, with great propriety, a speech which had been previously prepared; and the good-natured Sovereign appeared attentively to listen to his humble orator. As soon as the speech was ended, the boys chaunted "God save the King," in full chorus, and the favoured youth had the honour of delivering a MS. copy of the speech, beautifully written, to the King, and to the Queen.

Pursuant to prior arrangements, the King, Queen, and Royal Family, proceeded to the spacious house of a Mr. BARCLAY, an eminent Quaker, who resided opposite Bow Church, where magnificent accommodations had been provided for the royal party to view the return of '*the Lord Mayor's show*.' Outside the house, over the balcony fitted up for their Majesties and the Royal Family, a costly canopy was erected, with other appropriate decorations. This opulent and respectable tradesman, then in the eighty-first year of his age, was a son of the celebrated ROBERT BARCLAY, author of '*The Apology*.' It is asserted that this gentleman had the honour to receive in his house, George I. George II. and George III. soon after their respective accessions to the throne.

The Quaker family displayed the utmost politeness, and the most vigilant attention, in their

treatment of their royal guests, not alone in their reception, but during the whole of their stay. Amongst the attendants, there were one or two silly young people who indulged themselves in improper levities, mimicking the speech and manners of the Quakers, and turning both into ridicule. Either the King perceived, or he was informed of this, and with a promptitude that shewed at once his determination and his sensibility, he ordered the delinquents to be brought before him, and gave them their choice, of being removed for ever from his service, or asking pardon before the whole Court, of all '*the Friends*' then in the house, first of their Majesties and Royal Family, and next of the BARCLAY family. With this the abashed and confounded culprits complied; but their disgrace did not end there, for the King ordered a groom of the chamber to conduct them to a back room, there to remain till the show and procession were over.* This incident is trivial in its nature, but it marks the character and disposition of the King. Equal praise was not bestowed upon the Queen. She was young, and naturally volatile. The stiff and formal habits, and singular modes of speech, of '*the Quakers*,' struck her as something rather grotesque than venerable. On her first reception by them, she had great difficulty in suppressing an inclination to laugh. The grave and dignified deportment of the King, and a look of admonition, soon effectually recalled the wandering thoughts of the Queen, and from that moment she exceeded her husband in shewing the family every kind of gracious notice. It is therefore probable, that the signal punishment inflicted upon a pair of thoughtless

* This anecdote was communicated in 1805, to the Editor at Weymouth, by an old servant of the King, who affirmed it was a matter of fact.

pages, was principally intended as a lesson to his Bride.

Equally calculated to excel as a gentleman, or shine as a Monarch, the young King, on this occasion, acted as his own master of the ceremonies. Upon his entrance into the principal drawing-room, with his Queen by his side, he shewed himself to the assembled multitude, who crowded the streets, the windows, the house-tops, and who rent the air with their acclamations. So deep and loud were the plaudits, that even the clangor of Bow bells could scarcely be heard on the pavement below. The King and Queen nodded to certain individuals in the opposite windows, and bowed most good-naturedly to the congregated people.

The street beneath seemed literally paved with human heads, the faces turned towards Mr. Barclay's house, and their lips and lungs in full motion. Thus was the schoolboy's adage, '*see and be seen*,' verified; and, according to all accounts, it would have been difficult to decide which party was the best pleased, the King or the multitude.

This homage to the '*sovereign people*' having been paid by the young Monarch and his Bride, the Princess Dowager, and the rest of her sons and daughters, attracted the attention of the audience, and received the same compliments in return. The Duke of Cumberland, and his sister the Princess Amelia, were also honoured with loud and long plaudits; during which, the King, in the most grave, yet courteous manner, received his venerable host and family, allowing the males to wear their hats in his presence, and also to kiss hands, without the humiliation of bending their knee.

Amongst the light occurrences of this visit, a young grand-daughter of Mr. Barclay, who was very pretty, was introduced to the Queen in an apart chamber, who paid her respects to that great

lady with so much grace and propriety, that on the Queen's return to the drawing-room, she said to the King, in German, "My dear Sir, this venerable old gentleman (Mr. Barclay) has the most beautiful and entertaining little grand-daughter that ever was seen! Although but a child, she answers general questions with wonderful propriety. One of my ladies told her she must kneel to me. 'It is not right (said she) to bend the knee to a fellow-creature.'—'Who told you so, my child?'—'My grandfather.'—'What, not bend your knee to your King, or Queen?'—'No: I am bound to love thee because thou art good, but not to kneel to thee because thou art a Queen.'" The King smiled, and desired this extraordinary child might be introduced; who came without ceremony, talked without embarrassment, and retired with as much grace as if she had been reared at Court. A convincing proof, that even then the best-bred Quakers understood true elegance of manners, as well as they displayed the highest degree of taste in their apparel.

During the time the King remained in Mr. Barclay's house, it was remarked that he neither sat down, nor partook of any refreshment: the first peculiarity might arise from a wish to '*see, and be seen*,'—the latter, from his habitual abstemiousness; a quality that marked, in a very high degree, that self-command which the King so eminently possessed. It was by many attributed to *hauteur*, but the easy familiarity of the Monarch with every person belonging to the family whom he saw, or who were introduced to him, militates against that conclusion. The Queen sat the greater part of the time she was in the house; and took tea, which the family handed to the lady in waiting, who, in a kneeling attitude, presented it to the Queen. Yet, plain as the Quakers were dressed, and gorgeously as the Queen was decorated, it is not only

possible, but probable, the greater portion of real pride dwelt in the placid bosoms of the fair Quakers.

The King, Queen, and Royal Family, remained there till seven o'clock, the procession being very late, owing, in no small degree, to the difficulty of getting along. When the Lord Mayor's carriage appeared, and the Queen saw that it was almost as superb as that of the King her husband, and that he had his mace-bearer, and sword-bearer,—his numerous servants dressed in gorgeous liveries, preceding the state-coach on foot, and clustered on the board behind; the splendour of the Sheriffs' carriages, and the long train of sumptuous private carriages; she was much more amazed and confounded than by any thing she had yet remarked in England. She could scarcely be brought to believe that this splendid retinue was wholly appertaining to *tradesmen*. Lost in wonder, she exclaimed in German, “*My God! I thought there was but one King in England; and here is another!*”^{*} An exclamation which betrayed a strong feeling of pride and envy. After the more magnificent show of the Coronation Champion; the man in armour, of the civic pageant, did not strike her so forcibly: it was the riches and consequence of the citizens which riveted her attention, and filled her with surprise; for, in her ‘*father-land*,’ mechanics and shopkeepers were held in greater scorn by all those burnished butterflies and locusts of the Court, who lived by consuming the produce of the industry of others, than the lowest menial of the Prince, who strutted about in worsted lace. And as to a *Kauffman*,[†] he was scarcely tolerated in the petty and miserable courts of Germany; or, at best, only regarded as a

Translation.

* “*Mein Gott! Ich dachte es ware nur ein Konig in England, und doch ist noch ein anderen!*”

† Merchant.

sheep, whose woolly fleece was to be shorn, when the necessities or the caprice of his owner required its sacrifice.

When the time had arrived for the royal party to proceed to Guildhall, the King sent off all his family first in their respective equipages. Before their departure, Duke William, his uncle, and the Princes his brothers, saluted the females; which example was followed by the King* and Queen. Such were the envied honours enjoyed by the Barclay family on the occasion of this royal visit. On the termination of which, the King and Queen, attended by their hospitable host, descended to his carriage, *and without any other guards,*† except a delighted and affectionate assemblage of his people, and accompanied by their loudest *hurrahs*, slowly he proceeded through the highly decorated and illuminated streets to Guildhall.

This ancient edifice had been fitted up in the most magnificent style, unsparing of expense, under the auspices of a Committee appointed for that purpose, who had no limitation as to expenditure, but their own taste and discretion. The upper end of the Hall was superbly decorated, and fitted up for their Majesties and the Royal Family, who were received by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, arrayed in their grandest robes. As the King stepped within the porch of Guildhall, the Lord Mayor

* A number of witty impromptus appeared on this occasion; and when some of the servile prints of the day were extolling the King's flexibility of manners, which permitted him to suit his behaviour to the principles and habits of *the Quakers*, it was facetiously remarked, that His Majesty had been *thoroughly initiated* and instructed by the *fairest* of the Quaker sisterhood.

† This fearless confidence afforded the strongest possible proof of the King's CONSCIOUSNESS that he merited the attachment and affection of his people. When the government of England was despotical, even under the Norman kings, *standing armies* and *military guards* were unknown.

kneeled down, and presented His Majesty with the city sword, as a mark of homage and subjection: this being returned, it was borne before the royal pair to the council-chamber, where their Majesties received the whole municipal body: thence, along a spacious gallery, richly hung, and decorated with the royal arms, the Monarch, his Queen, and family, under the sound of trumpets, and shouts of the spectators, were conducted to the stately tables which had been prepared for them.

The seats prepared for their Majesties at the head of the table, and under magnificent canopies, surmounted by the emblems of royalty, and the arms of the city, were grand and massive: the chairs set for the rest of the Royal Family at either side, were of less ample dimensions, but equally superb. The King and Queen occupied the head of the table: the rest of the family, eight in number, were divided, four in each party, to the right and left of the Sovereign. Every luxury that wealth could command, or the most fastidious epicure wish for, was abundantly supplied, dressed in the first style, and served up by the principal gentlemen of the municipality.*

* Mr. CRAIG copied from the publications of the day, the following *bill of fare* of this costly civic treat: *viz.*

FIRST TABLE.—The KING and QUEEN.

First Course.

Nine dishes; soups, fish, venison, &c.

Second Course.

Nine dishes; comprising a fine roast; ortolans, quails, knotts, ruffs, pea-chicks, &c.

Third Course.

Eleven dishes; vegetables and made dishes, green peas, green morells, green truffles, cardoons, &c.

It would extend the description of this magnificent civic feast too far, to go more into detail. All that is requisite further to remark, is, that on this occasion, for the *first time*, the Court Ladies of Honour were all *excluded the Royal Table*; a mark of pride, not very flattering to the nation, and which drew forth some severe comments from very able pens. The Queen had the credit of this innovation; and however exemplary were her merits as a wife and a mother, it cannot be denied but she

Fourth Course.

Nine dishes; curious ornaments in pastry, jellies, blomonges, cakes, &c.

EIGHT OF THE ROYAL FAMILY;

Four on the right hand of the King, and four on the left. Each division four services before them, as follows:

First Course.

Seven dishes; venison, turtle, soups, fish of every sort, as, dorys, mullets, turbots, brets, tench, soles, &c.

Second Course.

Seven dishes; ortolans, teals, quails, ruffs, snipes, partridges, pheasants, &c.

Third Course.

Nine dishes; vegetables and made dishes, green peas, artichokes, *ducks' tongues*, *fat livers*, &c.

Fourth Course.

Nine dishes; curious ornaments in cakes, both savoury and sweet, jellies, and blomonges, in a variety of shapes, figures, and colours.

“On the table, (continues Mr. CRAIG, p. 48, Memoir of Sophia-Charlotte,) between each service, was placed near a hundred cold ornamentals, and a grand silver epergne, filled with various kinds of (imitative) shell-work of different colours; the whole together, but exclusive of the dessert, amounting to *four hundred and fourteen dishes*. The expense of the royal table, at this dinner, exceeded £550; and the whole entertainment appears to have cost little short of *seven thousand pounds*.”—According to this scale of expense, the dinner for each of the ten royal personages cost *fifty-five pounds*.

aimed at drawing too broad a line between the Royal Family, and the nation by whom they had been elected. Of the ill effects of which narrow policy, the fate of some of her own children will bear ample testimony in an eminent degree. This trait, and many others, prove, that if Queen CHARLOTTE had not been curbed and restricted by her husband, she certainly would have appeared much less amiable. GEORGE III. was not despotical in his domestic conduct, as Ahasuerus, mentioned in the first chapter of Esther; but still he expected to be obeyed, and the prudent young Queen never lost sight of the circumstances under which he had taken her as his consort. And wherever she saw any favourite point of her own could not be carried, but at the risk of incurring his displeasure, she had always the good sense to yield up her wishes, and act as the King desired.

As early as decorum permitted, the temperate Monarch and his young Consort retired from this splendid feast, attended in the same ceremonious manner as they had entered Guildhall. They were again received with the loudest acclamations by the immense concourse of people waiting for them in the illuminated streets. Nor did the King forget the BARCLAYS, as the royal equipage slowly moved past their residence, but nodded and bowed to them, apparently pleased to see that they were all waiting to pay their measured *obeisance* to their Sovereign and family. The Royal Family were every where applauded as they passed along, back to their respective palaces.

In commemoration of this visit, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, a few days after this splendid festival, resolved unanimously, that a statue of the King should be prepared, at the expense of the city, and placed in the Royal Exchange, with those of his predecessors; and also, that the King and Queen should be humbly

requested to honour the city of London by sitting for their pictures ; which solicitation was favourably received ; and the Committee, which had conducted the recent feast, was authorized to carry these measures into execution : at the same time, the Court of Aldermen returned thanks to the King and Queen for the great honour conferred by the visit paid to the city of London. Such was the good-humour that prevailed at this early period of the reign ; but which was soon interrupted by the baleful influence of the unconstitutional politics of the Earl of Bute.

Nothing marked the good sense of the young King in a stronger manner than his resolution to retire, as much as his public duty allowed him, from the splendid misery of Court etiquette ; and form a private establishment for himself and his wife, wherein he might enjoy the comforts of a family circle, undisturbed by the burdensome ceremonies of an open Court.

His Majesty made choice of Buckingham House,* the history of which is too generally known to

* A master plumber, who was in imminent danger of being cast into gaol owing to his expenditure on this costly fabric, on some well-feigned excuse, induced the *noble owner* (who unconcernedly saw him likely to be for ever ruined) to go with him on the leads, to inspect the roof. As soon as they were up, the tradesman enticed his patron to a part, where, at a small distance, was an opening into the area below. Then he seized the Duke of Buckingham in his arms, and told him, if he would not immediately pay him for his work, he was determined to precipitate himself and his undoer off the leads ! The Duke would have expostulated ; but the tradesman's resolution was not to be shaken. "I have no cash (said the Duke) with me."—"Then give me an order upon your banker !"—"I would willingly, (said the terrified owner of the palace,) but I have neither pen, ink, nor paper."—"Here are all those requisites, and this bulk-head will furnish a table, (said the plumber :) if you mean as you say, be quick. My credit is at stake. Death is less terrible to me than bankruptcy and ruin." The Duke wrote the order, and signed it in his usual way. He was then required to give his word of honour not to quit the roof

require illustration. The sum paid for that elegant and convenient palace, was twenty thousand guineas. The property was made over to the young Queen during life, instead of the old Palace, called Somerset House, in the Strand: this being afterwards pulled down, the present structure was erected on its site, which may be described as being at once an ornament and a disgrace to the city: the former, from the beauty of the grand front next the Thames; the latter, by its excluding the public from a promenade upon its shore, and a view of the bridges, and the beautiful Surry hills over the opposite shore.

The King took a very active part in furnishing this Palace, and laying out the gardens and pleasure-ground; a task he commenced with great avidity, drawing his own plans, and superintending its execution.

The young Queen was fond of flowers, and one of the first undertakings was to construct a new flower-garden; in the performance of which duty,

till the tradesman had been gone half an hour. (This scheme was executed during the dinner-hour of the workmen.) No sooner, however, was the plumber seen running with matchless rapidity across the Park, by the Duke, than, regardless of an extorted promise, as he had proved himself heedless of a moral duty, he attempted to descend, when, to his surprise and mortification, he found the trap-door was bolted, and though he called out as loud as he could, it was so long before he was heard and relieved, that when his messenger had reached the banker's, the check was paid, and the man gone. The Duke, enraged at the indignity put upon him, and, perhaps, still more aggrieved at having been compelled to pay a debt against his inclination, at first menaced the tradesman with a criminal prosecution, who had the honour and discretion to hold his tongue; but after the Duke had exposed himself to ridicule and contempt, *his Grace* found, that, without further evidence than his own oath, he could not convict the plumber of having put his life in danger; and the bold adventurer had taken care not to demand any more money than the Duke himself had acknowledged to be his due, on a prior settlement of his accounts.

JOHN LOWE, whose name has so frequently occurred in these pages, having been fortunate enough to please his royal master, was often consulted. When the King found that this young fellow had some knowledge of mathematics, and understood perfectly well the scale that was laid down in the plans, and how to lay the ground out, the pleasure of his royal master was increased, and John, the under-gardener, became in frequent requisition.

There was a particular tree growing in the garden, which intercepted the prospect from one of the royal apartments, and the King asked the head-gardener if that tree could not be lowered four or five feet, so that its growth, for it was very handsome, should not be injured? The gardener said he thought the plan was impracticable. The King heard his opinion, and then said he thought differently; and immediately gave directions for slinging the tree under a huge triangle; he then had the earth dug away at a given distance from the stem, and undermined, securing the ground from falling by planks, fastened beneath by ropes. As the earth was removed, the pulleys and the triangle kept the tree suspended. As soon as a sufficiency of earth had been excavated, the King in person ordered the tree to be lowered, when, by some accident, LOWE was jammed in by the falling in of the earth upon him, and was nearly suffocated before he could be extricated.

The King shewed the most lively distress at this accident; but such was the softness of the mould, and the number of persons at hand, the young man was soon extricated from a premature grave. His anxious master had, however, sent to call the first surgeon that could be found, which happened to be the Queen's. It was in vain the young Scotchman protested he was not hurt; the King *insisted* upon the surgeon feeling his pulse, who, rather to humour the King, than from any sense of

its absolute necessity, opened a vein, which was performed on the spot. LOWE lodged at that time in Petty France, with a person who was famous for teaching stammering people how to conquer that impediment; but the King ordered him to be taken into the palace, and placed under the care of the housekeeper and M' Manus. Every day the Queen's surgeon paid Lowe a visit, during three weeks, and every visit, by order of the King, gave him a gold five-and-threepenny piece; but although the young fellow fared sumptuously, and went about wherever he pleased, so strong was the attachment he had conceived for the King, that he told the surgeon he would rather serve him personally for a shilling a day, than live pampered and idle in that manner for a guinea. This was told to the King, who said, "*Tell LOWE, if he is tired of being a gentleman, he may declare off the sick list, and come to-morrow morning.*" As soon as the garden bell rung, Lowe made his appearance; in half an hour the King was there, who said, "Well, Lowe, I hope you have quite recovered from your accident, and that it is the last you will ever receive in my service."—" *I humbly thank you, Sir,** (said the grateful young man :) *I suffered more*

* It was the King's orders, that no person amongst his work-people should pull off their hats when they passed him, nor say to him, "Your Majesty," but simply, "Sir," or "Madam," to the Queen. If the King spoke to them, *and it did not rain or snow*, they were to take off their hats. LOWE one day forgot himself, when his royal monitor said, "Don't use that expression again: I hear it enough elsewhere. In this place I wish to be spared such empty and unmeaning expressions." Lowe took care never to forget himself again; observing, that if he had, he had no doubt but the King, conceiving it was an intentional disobedience of orders, would have dismissed him. Whenever the King visited any manufactory, it was his custom to desire that the men should abstain from addressing him otherwise than as a private gentleman. The PETER FORRESTER, Esq. who communicated some curious anecdotes, inserted in Vol. II. of '*The Northern Courts*,'

from being deprived of the honour of assisting you, than by the earth that fell upon me."—"Thank you, LOWE, thank you, (said the King :) *some of those who serve me in higher stations have more attachment to the revenue than to their duties.*" At this period the King's utterance, though rather thick, was free from that hurried manner and rapid deliverance, which soon grew apparent. JOHN LOWE, who used to see the King and Queen together almost every day, while the gardens were arranging, and to stand within hearing of their conversation for hours together, waiting or executing their orders, describes the King's demeanour as having become still more grave than before marriage, though free from every outward mark of grief or despondency. The Queen, he said, appeared to be of a *free and gay disposition*: the other elders agree in giving her these traits of character; and added, that it was generally believed she would have kept a most brilliant Court, '*and dashed away,*' if the King's love for domestic retirement had not prevented her.

At this period the Queen had made but very little progress in the English tongue: two German ladies, who were her almost constant companions, were alike ignorant of our language. One day, soon after Buckingham House had become a Royal Palace, the Queen and her ladies stood gazing on the red berries of a mountain ash. LOWE was at work near at hand: the young Queen, laughing, made signs for him to mount the tree, and gather some branches: the young man was

said he knew a very eminent iron-founder, who had prepared a curious kitchen-range, for which he obtained a patent. The King went to inspect it, and all the workmen, except one, obeyed the master's orders; but that ONE used the word '*Majesty*' as often as he possibly could find an opening; at which the King allowed himself to be so provoked, that he *desired* the man might be discharged.

then nimble as a roebuck; he soon reached the desired boughs, which he intended to have brought down. The Queen again made signs for him to throw them down upon the grass-plat: the young gardener, rather mortified, obeyed; for he thought this had been done from a feeling of pride, to prevent his having the honour to present them; but he was mistaken: there they laid when he descended. He immediately took them up, and, without offering to kneel, respectfully held them towards the Queen, who, with the smile of real good-nature, took them from his hand, into which she dropped two new guineas; and each of the three ladies carried a sprig in their hands to the King. The next time the young Monarch saw LOWE, he said, "LOWE, you did very right to oblige the Queen, and I am obliged to you; but she is yet young, and might ask you to climb higher trees than you can manage with safety. In that case, never hesitate to express the danger, by looking up to the tree, and shake your head: Queen Charlotte is a good creature, and will not allow you to endanger yourself, if she were aware of it." These trivial matters become of importance, if considered as indications of real character and genuine feelings. As such they are decidedly honourable to the King, and also to the late Queen.

On another occasion, LOWE, who, when young, was a handsome, smart little fellow, ingratiated himself still further, by recovering a sparrow-hawk belonging to the Queen, which had effected its escape. On this occasion he had to ascend a very lofty tree. When he handed the captive over to his royal mistress, she again drew from her purse a couple of new guineas, which she gave to the fortunate young gardener. It seems that she seldom gave less; and if so, she certainly paid most liberally, and becoming the Queen of a great nation.

Upon the most minute inquiry into the conduct of Charlotte upon her marriage with the King, towards the servants of the royal household, it was, in every respect, marked by sound discretion and dignified policy. She dismissed, but not unprovided for, several females in the upper class of domestics, whose conduct had been any thing rather than correct. In such vast establishments, where so much pomp and luxury abound, and a proportionate quantum of idleness prevails, it is next to impossible to prevent very great licentiousness obtaining; and perhaps it was from the gross debauchery which existed amongst the servants, high and low, of the royal establishments, which led the Princess Dowager of Wales to impute so excessive and universal a spirit of demoralization to the English nobility and gentry, male and female, young or old. The Queen found women filling very respectable and responsible situations, who were the mothers of a numerous, though of an *unowned*, progeny, no two of whom were begotten by the same father. Those females she dismissed, but not without annuities for their support. She caused all the superintendants to be informed, that she should consider *them* responsible for the *future* conduct of the under-servants. A very pretty (Berkshire) girl, a farmer's daughter, who was then a laundry-maid, was observed by the young lynx-eyed Queen to be in a condition that could not have been much longer concealed. She was a very modest-looking, as well as a very fine girl: her pensive, downcast looks, first attracted the Queen's notice. Upon inquiry, it proved that she had been basely betrayed by a mercenary and vile licentious woman, who held a situation above her in the department to which she appertained; who had, in a most infamous manner, favoured the designs of an '*honourable*' page in waiting, who had been treacherously admitted to her bed.

On this occasion, the Duchess of Hamilton was commissioned to inform the cowardly ravisher, that his presence would, in future, be dispensed with; and further, that if he did not make a liberal provision for the young woman, he should be publicly prosecuted. Confounded by a severity of punishment so unusual, the young sprig of nobility had no resource but immediate compliance. His family settled two hundred pounds a year on the poor girl for life, and deposited three thousand pounds in the public funds for the child of which she was pregnant; or, in case of its death, to devolve to the mother; and, in the event of her death, to her nearest relations. Thus dearly paid one of the many debauched and unprincipled noble youths, who was fastened upon the royal establishment, for his crime: as to the vile matron, who had so cruelly abetted his treacherous and unmanly procedure, she escaped all other punishment than a most ignominious dismissal, without any annuity. In this creditable manner did the young Queen set about reforming the gross depravity of morals, which, at the accession of George III. was found predominant in some of the royal establishments.

The King, thus early in life, was a great economist of his time. He rose very early, and was generally on horseback, in summer, before six o'clock, and sometimes as early as five. From his accession to the throne, till after the birth of George IV. he is said to have been restrained, by the advice of his ministers, (at least such is the account given by JOHN LOWE,) from following the hounds; a privation of which he complained: to be rid of which interdict, the old patriarchs imputed his consent to be married!

Looking over his plan for the Queen's flower-garden, the King was giving Lowe directions how to proceed, when the latter perceived an error, which he was compelled to notice, or spoil a part

of the work. When his royal master found that the young man was well grounded in mensuration, and understood something of mathematics, he praised the Scotch for the excellent education they gave their children, and told Lowe, if he desired it, he would place him in the royal garden at Kew; a kindness which the rambling disposition of the young man, and a jealousy arising from a place having been bestowed by the Queen upon BILLY RAMUS, which LOWE expected would have been his, alone prevented being realized.

According to the unanimous testimony of these men of ancient days, the deportment of the King towards the Queen was distinguished by great *kindness*, rather than *excessive fondness*. There was no appearance of uxoriousness,—none of neglect nor dislike: they all agreed, that the King was of a much graver turn than the Queen, and he appeared, in their opinion, to hold the natural gaiety of her disposition, if not in absolute restraint, at least under a strong degree of secret control.

They also spoke very decidedly as to the dislike of the Queen towards the King's mother, and the Royal Family generally. They had all been so long used to the Princess Dowager, that they said they could perceive by her looks she could not endure the Queen; whilst the proud spirit of the Princess Augusta ill brooked the precedence she was reluctantly forced to yield. In this point they were very positive; LOWE less so than the others, who almost accused her late Majesty of having incensed the King to be undeservedly angry with his eldest sister. Thus early began a fatal antipathy, which, extending its baleful influence through a lengthened life, is, perhaps, justly to be considered as the first great cause of the unhappy circumstances in which the REIGNING QUEEN (if such CAROLINE-LOUISA may be called) has been placed, and which have embittered her whole life.

This aversion was so strong, it could not be concealed. The coarse expressions used by the Princess Dowager of Wales were, in various ways, avenged by petty insults levelled at her eldest daughter. The King's profound respect for his mother, protected *her* most efficiently against the resentment so natural to a young female who had been thus rudely treated; but her eldest daughter felt, in an endless variety of ways, the enmity of the young Queen. Perhaps she was too proud to stoop to any conciliatory overtures; and, perhaps, they had been unavailing, if made. No one can say with truth, that there were not faults on both sides; but the Princess Augusta was the principal sufferer. Her brother, upright and just as he was, inclined too much against his sister. Knowing how high-spirited she was, he gave implicit credit to accusations resting on that basis; and from the day of the Queen's arrival, the Princess Augusta appeared to those who attended her, secretly unhappy; and it was whispered, that rather than submit to the mortifications to which she stood exposed, from the power and influence of the Queen, she entreated her mother to obtain permission for her to retire from the Court, and reside at Saxe-Gotha; or, if that were deemed an inadmissible proposition, to have a moderate establishment allowed her at Hanover. There is abundant reason to believe, that Queen Charlotte secretly persecuted that generous Princess, who was too proud to conceal the resentment she cherished, and too unguarded not to afford the secret agents who watched her every word and action, many advantages, aiding their nefarious projects of creating an open, or at least an irreconcilable breach, between her and the King. Thus, long before the reigning Queen was born, the seeds of that fatal enmity were sown, whose bitter fruits blighted the bloom of her youth, withered all her early pros-

pects, and exposed her to the greatest privations, the most gross of indignities, the cruellest of insults! This subject furnishes the darkest spot in the character of the late Queen: but whilst the impartial historian must condemn her conduct, as respected the elder sister of the King her husband; and, at a later period, her unceasing enmity towards the daughter of that Princess when wedded to her eldest son; yet, the gross indiscretion of the Princess Dowager of Wales should not be forgotten, whose rude and contemptuous expressions towards Charlotte of Mecklenburg were such as few women know how to forgive. The late Queen was liable to a woman's feelings and frailties; and most ridiculous does that writer render himself, who presumes to mislead the understanding of the nation, by holding her up as a model of all that is good and gracious in the female character; as a lady without fault, or without reproach!

It was, however, the fate of Queen Charlotte, to suffer in public estimation soon after her marriage, even where she had not given any just cause of offence. That she was too much elevated to bear her good fortune discreetly, her conduct towards the ladies of her court, in a great variety of instances, indisputably proved; and nothing more decidedly so, than her degrading the ladies of her court, by excluding them from the royal table. These acts, with her known partiality towards Lord BUTE, and her imputed hostility to the friends of popular rights, drew forth, at an early period, many bitter comments; and the indigence of her family, and the poverty and misery of the enslaved inhabitants of her *father-land*, furnished frequent themes of ill-mannered strictures. The most improbable tales of her parsimony, pride, and insolence, were plentifully scattered, and eagerly swallowed. It was reported, that she should have said to her German attendants, that if she had power

she would clip the wings of city-pride, and teach the vulgar dames to dress as burghers' wives dressed at Strelitz, and not allow them to vie with royalty in the splendour of their jewels, and the richness of their attire. And when the price of porter advanced, it was also currently reported, that the Queen had said to the King, "*The common people drink WATER in my country; why don't you teach the mob of London to do the same?*" This calumny was very assiduously circulated; and nothing could be calculated to do her more injury with the populace of London. It has been long since forgotten, in the cloud of new taxes levied on the nation, that when George the Third came to the crown, the advance of a halfpenny per pot on the price of porter caused a deep and dangerous spirit of discontent in the middling and lower classes of inhabitants. Doddington, in his '*Diary*,' on the 2d of February, 1761, writes,—"*Lord BUTE came, and was dissatisfied with the clamour about the beer, at the Playhouse, the evening on which the King was there.*" The old servants, so frequently alluded to, all declare the Queen, after her arrival, was generally believed to have begged of the King to prevent the advance of price, if it were in his power, being fearful it might give rise to acts of popular violence, and render the King unpopular. And what comes more home, JOHN LOWE affirms, that he was standing very near to the King and Queen, at Buckingham-House, when certain gentlemen from London, Westminster, and Southwark, attended by a procession, (or an assemblage so vast that it filled the Park, from the Queen's Palace to Story's Gate,) came to present a petition. The King, he said, had either just dined, or was sitting at dinner, when the multitude arrived; whose mingled shouts of acclamations and reproach he described as having been extremely vehement. The King, he said, went out to the principal en-

trance fronting St. James's Park, and there received the deputation. The Queen stood by the King's side, and appeared pale and agitated. The King received the petition into his own hand,* and gave a verbal answer, stating, that he much regretted any thing should occur to displease the inhabitants of London, which he could not redress, but that it was utterly past his power to give any hopes of relief. In a few minutes the deputation retired, whilst mingled cries of applause and reproach again resounded. As soon as the mobility were withdrawn, the Queen said, '*Do, my dear Sovereign, if possible, acquiesce, and prevent the price of porter being raised: it will certainly lead to some dangerous consequences.*' Such, LOWE declared, was the tenor of the Queen's sentiments on this occasion; whilst it was very generally reported, that she had uttered the irritating and contemptuous expressions already noticed. In this instance, therefore, and doubtless in many others, the Queen was calumniated. The Editor of this Memoir, whilst he will not clothe this Princess with poetical attributes, nor pretend to exalt her character high above her real deserts, will not, on the other hand, give currency to vulgar tales of slander. As a wife and a mother, her character stood above reproach, and merited the greatest applause. As a Queen, the pains she took to render the British Court less exceptionable than it had been under George I. and II. entitles her to very great applause; but when the fine man-

* In all the northern nations, the monarchs receive petitions, and give audiences, to the meanest of their subjects. The Ex-King of Sweden used, in Stockholm, in summer-time, to rise at four o'clock; and he often devoted two hours to the receipt of private petitions, and in giving audience to his subjects who had any complaints to make against the decisions of his JUDGES, or of the ill-conduct of any of the servants of the crown; and it is due to him to admit, as far as his judgment enabled him to decide, he was never known to refuse to do strict justice.—*Editor.*

ners and correct principles of her husband are considered, the credit which attaches to that reform must be shared with him: for it is a fact, as well ascertained as any circumstance of her life, that in her natural character, Queen CHARLOTTE was volatile, fond of dress, of routes, masquerades, and operas; and in all probability she would have freely indulged those propensities, but for the restraint imposed by the King. When, therefore, these qualities are commended, that master-hand should be praised by whom they were implanted. The old men who saw CHARLOTTE on her first arrival, and the present Queen on her landing in 1794, thirty-three years later, affirm, that the Queen of George the Third appeared to the full as free and unembarrassed in her manners, as gay, and more full of spirits, than the latter. And soon after the late King was consigned to Windsor Castle, and the Prince of Wales had become Regent, it was observed, with mingled surprise and disapprobation, that the Queen appeared much more abroad, and mixed more in public fetes and gala parties, than she had ever done in the dawn and meridian of her public life: which circumstances, by '*The Times*' and other eminent authorities, were construed, that CHARLOTTE had been restrained by the more grave and sedate disposition of the King; and, that old as she was, she gave a free scope to her natural genius, as soon as the restraints of his precepts and example were removed. These remarks are not meant to injure the character of Queen Charlotte, but rather to do her ample and liberal justice; for some of the panegyrics, which have been lavished upon her memory by recent historians, are so very full of the absurd and ridiculous, that an inveterate enemy could not have taken a more effectual course to injure and degrade her reputation! The world allows, that

'Praise undeserv'd is SATIRE in disguise.'

The Editor has given instances of liberality in this Queen to JOHN LOWE, and he admits, that when young, she was not mean nor parsimonious; but he sees no reason to believe that her sensibility was so extreme, or her generosity so romantic, as to expend her income in acts of benevolence, even before it had arrived; or to pluck the gems from her stomacher to bestow them on the indigent, to preserve them and their families from impending ruin. All surreptitious embellishments are alike injurious to the memory of the late Queen, as injudicious in her biographers who have presented the public with a laboured eulogium, instead of a faithful delineation of character. It is difficult to pronounce which of the two extremes is the most objectionable; the nauseating emission of indiscriminate praise, which, like a load of varnish spread over the human face, conceals wrinkles and freckles, but distorts the features, and offends the eye of taste,—or that bitter spirit which neutralizes every virtue, and exaggerates every defect. It has been the Author's endeavour to avoid those evils, and, in delineating character, never maliciously to depreciate, nor endeavour to elevate by artificial attributes.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS SELECTIONS,

Descriptive of the morals, manners, habits, taste, pursuits, attainments, and principles, of GEORGE III. in the early years of his Reign.

THE quantity of ORIGINAL and AUTHENTIC biographical sketches, illustrative of the real character of the late King, as well as the many scarce, curious, or original articles, contributed by the Editor from his personal resources, leave him at liberty, free from all dread of the imputation of poverty as to materials or intellect, previous to entering into the graver details of this important life, to lay before his readers a collection of paragraphs taken principally from '*The Times*,' and some other recent, as well as more remote publications; together with a few original sentences and explanatory notes. By this course he hopes to render his reader familiarly acquainted with the personal character of the late Monarch; so that, by keeping in mind the oligarchical machinations already described, he may the better be able to appreciate the eventful reign of GEORGE III.

That King's partiality to men of science, in preference to men of genius, was manifested in the first years of his reign. He was himself addicted to scientific pursuits; but at no part of his life did he evince any thing like a bright genius; and it is not commonly seen, that mankind set any great value upon qualities they do not possess, and know not how to appreciate. Yet, whilst sculpture and poetry were equally overlooked, navigation, astronomy, mechanics, agriculture, and horticulture, received, in a very high degree, the warm beams of Royal patronage.

“The King (says ‘*The Times*,’ speaking of his early habits) was fond of looking at funeral monuments, and reading epitaphs; but his taste for sculpture did not appear very particular. Perhaps the King, to speak familiarly, was seldom more at home than when conversing on matters which mixed the mechanical with the scientific. Hence charts or maps, or the construction and the goodness of a time-keeper, a telescope, and other optical and mathematical instruments, or of pieces of clever machinery, down even to those of mere conveniency, interested him greatly. He was occasionally philosophical. Inventions and discoveries were sure to attract his notice. In relieving his mind from matters of importance, or of mere routine, by light mechanical operations, he had the authority and recommendation of Locke. Old folks remember well what a talk there once was about the King having turned in a lathe a set of ivory buttons.*

“His chief amusement indoors, it is known, was music, and that certainly of the highest character for grandeur and sublimity of composition, by which he not only gratified a well-tuned ear, but exalted his devotional feelings: but he had very little relish for the meretricious bravuras of the Italian stage, and less for the fantastic and bewitching movements of its ballets. Had the voluptuous waltz been introduced at his Court, the royal frown would assuredly have forbidden its repetition; its German origin could not have saved it. For many years the Opera had not been honoured by the regal presence. Neither the music, nor the show,

* His godfather, Adolf-Frederick, (father of Gustavus III. who fell by the hand of ANKARSTROM,) sent, about the year 1761, several very elegant pieces of mechanism, in iron and ivory, to George the Third; which, perhaps, gave the first impulse to that Monarch to try his ingenuity at the lathe or the anvil; for it was said that George III. worked in iron, as well as ivory or wood.—*Editor*.

nor the circled splendours of his nobility, and still less the lateness of the hours, had attraction sufficient to claim his evenings, or interfere with the regularity of his habits. But he loved with all his heart to go and see, and enjoy an English play, as often as he could make it convenient. Here he was quite at home: an English King, in the midst of his subjects of all ranks and classes, partaking of the common amusement, and sharing in the universal pleasure. But here, while he relaxed his state to exhilarate his humanity, he could not command exemption from the sneers or the sarcasms of some would-be Spartan patriot, or some witty disappointed political critic. The King of Great Britain, it was more than insinuated, ordered too frequently the representation of light and frivolous productions, and appeared to enjoy the tricks and fooleries of a pantomime with the glee of a holiday play-goer. Whimsical transformations, and such deceptions as Follet, the clown, swallowing a carrot four or five yards long, shook the sides of Majesty itself with hearty laughter.* But every body (continued the editor) above the lower classes, knew that the King could delight in the serious drama, and that he was a reader and admirer of Shakspeare. One advantage resulted from his play-going; he became personally as well known

* This reminds one of George II. who preferred farces, pantomimes, and funny comedies; but then he did not understand English enough to enjoy Shakspeare. That monarch liked such pieces as *The London Cuckolds*, &c. and used to laugh heartily at the mishap of an intriguing hairdresser, in getting in at a lady's window in the morning, when the sweeps pass by and blacken the gallant's posteriors. When he went to see *Richard III.* the bustle of which pleased him, he was struck with the proffered homage of the Mayor of London, and said, "Dat is goot Lord Mayor!" And when Richard was bellowing out in his distress in Bosworth-field, His Majesty said, "Will not dat goot Lord Mayor come back again to help him?"—*Times*.

to all his metropolitan subjects as their next-door neighbours.

“ The late King, early after his accession, evinced a strong predilection for civil architecture, and *ornamental gardening* ;* but it is remarkable, that during his long reign, no superb royal edifice has been erected, nor any old one magnificently improved upon a large scale.

“ The King found Windsor and Hampton Court much in the same state as they had been in since the reign of Queen Anne. St. James's, respectable only for its convenience, had been enlarged without elegance. His predecessor chiefly resided at Kensington, or rode to the old Lodge at Richmond, since pulled down. Kensington Palace, though irregular and ungraceful, contains apartments well suited to purposes of state, and is preferable in its situation to any royal residence except Windsor Castle ; but the late Sovereign did not like its vicinity to the Metropolis. The natural and more just taste that prevailed, caused him equally to dislike the stately unvaried flatness of Hampton Court. He offered, indeed, to submit its artificial gardens to the mercy of the famous Capability Brown ; but

* It was the taste possessed by John Lowe in this department of his calling, which attracted the notice of the King, and rendered him a humble favourite. LOWE affirms there was not a gardener about Kew who had so true a taste as the King. When the King first went to Buckingham House to reside, LOWE was an undergardener, and his wages only twelve shillings weekly ; but from the time the King took notice of him, by His Majesty's express orders, his wages were raised to eighteen shillings, which, at that period (1760), as the old man feelingly observed, went as far, and was worth as much, as *thrice* that sum in 1820 : and that his present weekly income only procured as much provision, as he earned in less than two days when he was young. He described the King as being, in his gardens and pleasure-ground, his own *overseer*, noticing the conduct of every man ; discouraging the vice of drinking to excess ; and strictly forbidding any of his workmen uttering profane or indecent words.—*Editor*.

the latter declined doing any thing with them, except letting the trees grow more in their natural way. The King loved more rural scenery, and therefore wished to be more in the country. But he first tried the hand of improvement at Kew and Richmond. At Kew, he expended considerable sums in converting a most uninviting and unfavourable spot into a beautiful pleasure-garden, and made a paradise bloom in what was before a wild; studding its plantations all round, under the direction of Sir W. Chambers, comprising all sorts of forms, Roman, Greek, Moresque, and Chinese. But the Palace was made merely white and decent. The old house, where the present King was educated, was left standing, and remains as it was. His Majesty then metamorphosed Richmond Gardens, a favourite occasional retreat of many of our kings and queens, and formed an embanked terrace towards the river, where the scene is mild and pleasing, but not striking. But in that part of the ground which lies to the west of the Ha!-ha! His Majesty designed to erect a palace not unworthy of his occasional residence. The ground was marked out for this edifice, and dug for the foundations. Here, however, the work stopped. Yet, so intent was he on erecting a suitable mansion, that he had two large models of designs for it executed under Chambers; one of a more solid, and the other of a lighter character of style. They are both to be seen in the Cartoon gallery* at Hampton Court.

* His Majesty's taste forsook him at one time, when he removed the divine cartoons of Raphael from the long gallery, constructed for their reception at Hampton Court by King William, to Buckingham House. There were no painted copies of them, but Sir J. Thornhill's, at Bedford House, and which are now in the University Gallery, at Oxford. They travelled afterwards to Windsor; but the King at last restored them to their original places. In these removals they sustained no serious injury.—*Times*. It was

“A celebrated antiquary, in a letter from Rome, dated December 16, 1762, thus expressed himself relative to George III.: *viz.* ‘Nothing gives me more satisfaction, than to find so many fine things purchased for the King of England. He is now master of the best collection of drawings in the world, having purchased two or three capital collections in this city; the last (belonging to Cardinal Albanis) for fourteen thousand crowns, consisting of *three thousand* large volumes, one kind of which are original drawings of the best masters; and lately there have been purchased for His Majesty, all the museum of Mr. Smith, of Venice, consisting of his library, prints, drawings, designs, &c. I think it is highly probable that the arts and sciences will flourish in Great Britain, under the protection of a Monarch, who is himself an excellent judge of merit in the fine arts.’

“A stronger proof (continues the Rev. Mr. COBBIN, p. 31,) of the King’s zeal for literature and the arts, could not be manifested, than in the order which he gave to the person whom he commissioned to purchase books for the fine library at Buckingham House, ‘*never to bid a farthing against any scholar or professor, or, indeed, any person of moderate means, desiring a particular volume for his own use.*’

“His late Majesty enjoyed the jokes* of PETER

not by PETER PINDAR alone, this want of taste was satirized; but by the lovers of the fine arts, from Italy, to the Arctic Circle. Sir Joshua Reynolds, in a letter written some years after their first removal, to his pupil, Sir Carl VON BREDA, of Stockholm, lamented the incident in very strong terms: first as respected those noble works of art; and next, on account of their being more secluded from the view and access of artists.—*Editor.*

* The Duke of Cumberland, the King’s uncle, though a jolly fellow, was not so good-natured. He could scarcely forgive Lord Townshend, for sketching with his cane on the snow, an outline of his Royal Highness’s huge figure. — *Walpole.*

PINDAR (Dr. WALCOT), and purchased all his works as they were published.

“The hostility of Dr. W—— (continues Mr. Cobbin) to the King, arose from His Majesty having taken a fancy to a picture at an exhibition, for which the painter would have had a hundred guineas from a private person, and then sending him but fifty for it.

“In the beginning of his reign, he patronized Dr. ROBERTSON, the historian, and even, for a time, the eccentric ROUSSEAU.

“Our late venerable Sovereign was patron and father of the Royal Society, being, in his latter days, the oldest member belonging to it. During the whole course of his long reign, he shewed a marked attention to that learned body, by placing at their disposal considerable sums of money towards the promotion of science, particularly in 1760 and 1769, for observing the transit of Venus in various parts of the globe.”

The King's favourite science was the lightest, and most fascinating of all others, i. e. MUSIC: he gave great assistance to the Society for the performance of Ancient Music. At a future period of his life, the prevalence of this taste was displayed, in the grand commemoration festival in honour of Handel; and, when driven by a terrible and incurable disease from his throne and his people, his lonely hours were soothed by its charms, and his sorrows mitigated.*

Northcote's Memoirs of Sir Joshua Reynolds details the liberal, active, and powerful patronage, bestowed by George the Third upon the Royal

* We cannot conceive any thing more pathetic, than the venerable and afflicted Monarch, playing from memory the sublime strains of his favourite Handel, and believing that his family were present to unite with him in the feelings of devout rapture which were thus excited.—*Times*.

Academy, instituted for the more efficient encouragement of painting.

An academy formed for this purpose had existed some years prior to the reign of George III. It also included the sister art (sculpture): the members used to meet at the work-rooms of the deservedly celebrated ROUBILLIAC, in St. Martin's-lane. That great painter of the mind and manners, as well as forms and features, of mankind, HOGARTH, had, at this period, attained to a high degree of celebrity; and he opposed the project of those who aimed at extending the basis of the society, so as to include a large number of students. He urged, that the result would be disastrous; that the proposed alterations might tempt many young men to quit more certain and profitable pursuits; and introduce a greater number of cultivators than could find patrons or employment. Hence arose feuds and jealousies: the artists took different sides; some supported Hogarth, others Reynolds; but the latter became president, and enjoyed a tolerable degree of royal patronage.

Mr. Cobbin (in his *Georgiana*, p. 39) states, that "when this Prince was very young, his father, then Prince of Wales, employed one GOUPY,* an ingenious artist, to paint a picture. GEORGE was then in some disgrace,—imprisoned behind a chair; which being observed by the painter, he solicited his liberty. '*Come out, George!*' said his father, '*Goupy has released you.*' Many years after this

* Mr. INGRAM COBBIN has trod in the path of the late HORACE WALPOLE. Describing the Father of GEORGE III. he says, p. 2, "*At the age of thirteen he lost his Father, who was a WEAK PRINCE, and UNWILLING, even were he capable, of attending to the education of his children, who were consequently much neglected.*" How far the Father of George III. merited this coarse reproach, the Editor leaves it to those who have read his character, as given from various good authorities, in the earlier parts of this work.—*Editor.*

event, the Prince having ascended the throne, and Goupy being aged and very poor, was perceived by the King, who was taking a ride along Kensington, who calling him, asked how he did, and the state of his finances. Goupy had just told the King the distress under which he laboured, when a bailiff, who had been some time on the watch to arrest Goupy, approached. The terrified artist explained the peril he was in, and said, ‘*Sire*, I once released you; may I hope, in my old age, that you will take pity on me, and save me from a prison.’ The King was not deaf to his entreaty: he said, mildly, ‘I cannot save you now; the law must take its course; but don’t despair: I promise you, I will release you.’ The King kept his word,—paid off his debts, and gave him a pension during the rest of his life.” This seems a well-authenticated fact; and it displays a nobleness of mind very rarely met with, and well worthy of being recorded.

“M. de la Lande, the celebrated French astronomer, being introduced to the King, and thanking him for the liberal patronage he had afforded to his favourite science, received the following memorable answer: ‘*Is it not far better than spending money for the purpose of setting men to murder each other?*’”*

The humility of this Monarch, and the fervour and sincerity of his religious professions, have already been noticed, in his insisting upon laying aside the crown. It is also asserted, and apparently on good authority, that he felt a very strong objection to the Athanasian Creed, and discountenanced its being read. Doctor Watson, the cele-

* This does not accord with his subsidiary treaties with Hesse Cassel, &c. in the American war: but this was, perhaps, his private sentiment; whilst the other was a part of his state policy as a Monarch.—*Editor*.

brated and the *good bishop* of Landaff, has recorded this aversion to bigotry: but, if his conscience disapproved its intolerance, had he not power to cause its rejection? and if he suffered it to remain, whilst convinced of its incompatibility with the goodness and wisdom of an all-wise Being, was the late King not wanting in spirit and fortitude? The fact is, that George III. was well convinced of the *vices*, as well as the power, of the Clergy, and he probably temporized in this particular, rather than provoke the enmity of that potent body, who had been the scourge and ruin of so many kings.

“It is well known, (says Mr. Cobbin,) that His Majesty was always partial to the employment, in his service, of sober and religious persons, with whom he would frequently converse on religious topics, to elicit information. On one occasion, seeing a young domestic in tears, he catechized her on the cause; and finding her grief arose from being prohibited by a superior from going to a *dissenting meeting* in the neighbourhood, His Majesty called that superior, and rebuked her sharply, saying, ‘I’LL ALLOW NO PERSECUTION DURING MY REIGN.’

“The King, one day conversing with one of his tradesmen, whom he knew to be a Presbyterian, asked him, ‘*Does your parson ever pray for me?*’*—‘In good truth he does, Your Majesty; (replied the Scotchman). ‘I dare say he does! I dare say he does! (rejoined the King;) for you know he is not paid for it.’

“In the second year of his reign, GEORGE III. granted a pension of £300 per annum to Doctor

* It redounds incalculably to the credit of the Dissenters, that, on the decease of GEORGE III. they offered up prayers for the desolate Consort of GEORGE IV. Many persons forsook the Established Church, displeased by the omission; and others were attracted to the meetings of Dissenters, by their prayers for that unhappy lady.

Samuel Johnson; it having been represented to His Majesty, that he was a very learned and a very good man, without any certain provision. The Earl of Bute, the prime minister, announced this intention of his Sovereign's bounty to the Doctor; who, it is said, felt some hesitation in accepting it, after the definition he had given in his Dictionary of '*pension*' and '*pensioners*.' Lord Bute, at the time of presenting him with it, expressly said to him, 'It is not given to you for any thing you are to do, but for what you have done.' A short time only elapsed, before the fallacy of this plea to *disinterested* benevolence was fully proved: a duplicity of conduct which applies to Lord *Bute* alone.

"Topography was one of His late Majesty's favourite studies. He copied *every* capital chart, took the models of *all* the celebrated fortifications, knew the soundings of the chief harbours in England: and all these were private acquisitions, and of his own choosing.*

"In the Queen's library at Frogmore, there is (or was) a port-folio of drawings, about fifty in number, done by His Majesty George III. when Prince of Wales. They represent problems, from a work on practical geometry, with vignettes to each, drawn in Italian ink, on small paper. His Majesty had an early predilection for the study of architecture, and this preparatory department of service was the

* The account given in the preceding pages of this Memoir, relative to the manners, habits, and pursuits, of the late King, during his youth, which were related to the Editor by living witnesses of his conduct, and whose veracity he has hitherto found no occasion to question, renders those laborious studies imputed to him, very doubtful. The attempts so frequently made, and so grossly and clumsily too, in recent memoirs of the Royal Family, to coin all manner of virtues, and invent every excellence of polite acquirements, in fact, to DEIFY Royalty, has rendered the *patch-work* sort of character quite ludicrous, and thrown such a *discredit* on their veracity, that even truth itself is doubted, when proceeding from the pens of such parasites.—*Editor*.

ground-work of the King's knowledge of that noble art. It is probable that these drawings were made with Mr. Kirby, the father of Mrs. Trimmer, as that ingenious artist had the honour to instruct His Majesty in the science of lineal perspective. They were found by the Queen, a few years since, in a desk, and placed in a red morocco folio; on the first page of which the Queen inscribed, with her own hand, that they were executed by the King when he was Prince of Wales.*

“The King possessed many of the more attractive qualifications of an educated and accomplished gentleman. With the love of the fine arts he was deeply imbued; his taste for music was chiefly indulged in the frequent performances which he encouraged of the works of Handel, and other old

* The following was omitted by accident.—Unwilling to deprive his readers of any fact essential to the developement of the late King's character, at any period of his life, the Editor inserts it in this place.—

Extracts from a letter written by Dr. Ayscough, (afterwards Dean of Bristol,) to Dr. Doddridge, dated Gerard-street, Feb. 16, 1744-5:

“Good Sir,—* * * * I am obliged to you for your kind congratulations on the honour his Royal Highness has lately done me, in trusting me with the education of his children. I am truly sensible of the difficulties, as well as the advantages, of the station I am placed in. * * * I thank God I have one great encouragement to quicken me in my duty, which is, the good disposition of the children entrusted to me: as an instance of it, I must tell you, that Prince George (to his honour and my shame) had learnt several pages in your little book of verses, without any directions from me: and I must say of all the children, (for they are all committed to my care,) that they are as comformable, and as capable of receiving instruction, as any I ever yet met with. How unpardonable, then, I should be, both in the sight of God and man, if I neglected my part towards them: all that I can say is, that no care or diligence shall be wanting in me: and I beg the prayers of you, and every honest man, for the divine blessing on my endeavours. I am, good Sir, with great truth and regard, your affectionate friend and humble servant,

“FRANCIS AYSCOUGH.”

high-seasoned viands and stimulating drinks, is well known; but many would scarce believe to what simplicity the Royal fare was limited. On levee-days His Majesty would be at St. James's, from Windsor, before noon, and, previous to the levee, make his dinner on a simple joint; so that he was ready to go through all the business with freshness and spirits.

“The King's habitual love of domestic comfort, and the rapid increase of his family, rendering Windsor Castle incommodious, he erected there the building called the Lodge, in which he gratified his taste for architecture very slightly, as the building by no means harmonizes with the grandeur of the group of which it should seem to form a part. At Buckingham House (taken in exchange for Somerset House, which had been settled on the Queen) some meretricious ornaments were lopped away, two new wings were built, and the premises greatly extended, without regard to external appearance. Here, however, His Majesty formed that spacious library, and collection of maps and views, &c. which have been increasing during his whole reign, and far eclipse any individual possession of the kind in this country. Here proper attention is paid: the books are well arranged, of every class, from pious folios down even to the offensive pamphlets of the passing day. The large space behind the house has more the air of a field than a royal garden.

“The elegant observatory was constructed, and properly furnished with astronomical apparatus. In this place the King took great delight: his calls there on his journeys between Windsor and London, or during a sojourn at Kew, were very frequent; and here he interested himself deeply both in scientific and mechanical studies. A Scotchman named Gray, who was employed at this observatory several years, used to say that His Majesty tried his skill

more by his various questions and experiments than all he had ever met with put together.

“A space at Kensington was devoted to agriculture, which he often visited with his gardener Forsyth, displaying much knowledge of this branch of culture. Beyond what has been mentioned, the King never gratified his early passion for architecture; in which science he was acknowledged to be well skilled.

“The King could not bear the idea of wasting time. He could not suffer papers to accumulate, by delaying his sign manual. His regard to expedition and punctuality induced him always to travel fast, though he was desirous not to injure his horses.

“It was ever His Majesty’s custom to pay an early visit to his Mews, if not to mount, to look at and pat his favourite horses. One morning, on entering, the grooms were disputing one with the other very loudly, so that the King for a short time was unnoticed. ‘I don’t care what you say, Robert,’ (said one,) but every one else agrees, that the man at the Three Tuns makes the best purl in Windsor.’—‘Purl! purl!’ (said the King, quickly;) Robert, what’s purl? This was explained to be warm beer, with a glass of gin, &c.: His Majesty listened attentively; and then turning round, said, loud enough to be heard by all, in the way of admonishing, ‘I dare say very good drink; but, grooms, too strong for the morning: never drink in a morning.’

“Eight or nine years after this, His Majesty happened to enter the stables much earlier than usual, and found only a young lad, who had recently been engaged, and to whom the King was unknown. ‘Boy, boy, (said he,) where are the grooms? where are the grooms?’—‘I don’t know, Sir; but they will soon be back, because they expect the King.’—‘Ah, ah, (said he,) then run, boy, and say the

King expects them; run, boy, to the Three Tuns; they are sure to be there, for the landlord makes the best purl in Windsor.'

"The King was not a great reader. Indeed, he scarcely ever took up a book. But he had a particular tact in obtaining information, and employed persons of ability to read books, and convey to him their substance.

"The temperance of His late Majesty's life has become almost proverbial. He rose in summer and winter before six o'clock. He would take a slight breakfast at eight, and dine off the plainest joint at one. He retired early to rest, after passing the evening with his family, generally amused with music, of which he was passionately fond, and in which he manifested a most correct taste. The King's agricultural pursuits (for, as Burke has justly said, 'even in his amusements he was a patriot') contributed to the strength of his constitution.

"The measures pursued from the year 1760 to the commencement of the American war, were, taken collectively, no less injurious to the honour of the nation, than to the popularity of the King's government. Lord Bute's immoderate power—the disgraceful peace of Paris—the weak and worthless administration of the Duke of Grafton—the unpunished insolence of the Court of Madrid—the *successful turbulence of Wilkes—and the inextinguishable brand of Junius,—raised a spirit in the country, which, if it had not found expression through a FREE PRESS, might have ended in some fatal convulsion.* The unjust and impolitic attempts of ministers upon the rights of North America, and on the feelings of the colonists, with the fierce animosities which they engendered against Great Britain, finished the sad picture of degradation abroad, and distraction at home, which that period of our history presents to us. To the Duke of Grafton Lord North succeeded, and the war with our

colonies—an unwise contest for an end that was unattainable. Party violence in Great Britain, however, was repressed for the moment by public danger. Most wars are popular at the outset with Englishmen, until the defeat of their military enterprises, and the ruinous waste of the national resources, make the people slowly wise, and the ministers unprofitably odious!

“The present age has not done justice to the King’s abilities. His conversation in public was sometimes light and superficial; but he often had a purpose in such dialogue, and as often entered into it to relieve himself from the weight of superior thoughts. The King, taking exercise and amusing himself with those about him, and the King in the cabinet, were two different men. In the discussion of public affairs, he was astonishingly fluent and acute; and his habits of business enabled him to refer with ease to the bearings of every subject. His successive ministers have each borne testimony to the dignity of his manners, as well as the readiness of his address, when he put on the character of the Sovereign. Nothing which was submitted to him was passed over with indifference or haste. Every paper which came under his eye contained marks of his observation; and the notes, which he almost invariably inserted in the margin, were remarkable as well for the strong sense as the pithiness of their character.”*

It has been very much the habit of writers to denominate the celebrated Mr. Wilkes, whose name is too intimately entwined with the early part of the reign of GEORGE III. as a personal enemy to that monarch. It should be remembered, there is no proof of that having been the case: and CHURCHILL,

* To preserve the narrative unbroken, a similar selection will be made in each succeeding epoch.

the poetical satirist, and intimate friend of Wilkes, having paid a marked respect to that Sovereign, it is not only charitable but reasonable to doubt the truth of the imputation. The following extracts from Churchill's poems may strengthen this impression :

“ Stripp'd of her gaudy plumes and vain disguise,
See where Ambition mean and loathsome lies ;
Reflection with relentless hand pulls down
The tyrant's bloody wreath and ravish'd crown.
In vain he tells of battles bravely won,
Of nations conquer'd, and of worlds undone ;
Triumphs like these but ill with manhood suit,
And sink the conqueror beneath the brute !
But if, in searching round the world, we find
Some gen'rous youth, the friend of all mankind,
Whose anger, like the bolt of Jove, is shed
In terrors only at the guilty head ;
Whose mercies, like Heav'n's dew, refreshing fall,
In gen'ral love and charity to all ;
Pleas'd, we behold such worth on any throne,
And doubly pleas'd we find it on our own.”

NIGHT.

“ Truth, goddess of celestial birth,
But little lov'd or known on earth,
* * * * *
Whether (from cities far away
Where fraud and falsehood scorn thy sway,)
The faithful nymph's and shepherd's pride,
With love and virtue by thy side,
Your hours in harmless joys are spent
Among the children of content ;
Or, fond of gaiety and sport,
You tread the round of England's court ;
*Sure to be found a welcome guest
In GEORGE's and in CHARLOTTE's breast.*”

THE GHOST.

“ But anxious only for my country's good,
In which my King's of course is understood,
My spirits cannot sink, though from the tomb
Stern Jefferies should be plac'd in Mansfield's room—

Though he should bring his base designs to aid
 Some black attorney, for his purpose made;
 And shove, while decency and law retreat,
 The modest Norton from his maiden seat—
 Though both in ill, confederates should agree
 In damned league to torture law and me,
Whilst GEORGE is King, I cannot fear endure:
Not to be guilty," is to be secure."

THE CONFERENCE.

The Editor closes this miscellaneous chapter with the following very graceful tribute to George III. by COWPER; *viz.*

"O! bright occasions of dispensing good,
 How seldom used, how little understood!
 To pour in virtue's lap her just reward;
 Keep vice restrain'd behind a double guard;
 To quell the faction that affronts the throne
 By silent magnanimity alone;
 To nurse with tender care the thriving arts,
 Watch every beam philosophy imparts;
 To give religion her unbridled scope,
Nor judge by statute a believer's hope;
 With close fidelity and love unfeign'd,
 To keep the matrimonial bond unstain'd,
 Covetous only of a virtuous praise,
 HIS LIFE A LESSON TO THE LAND HE SWAYS;
 To touch the sword with conscientious awe,
 Nor draw it but when duty bids him draw;
 To sheathe it in the peace-restoring close
 With joys beyond what victory bestows:
 Blest country, where these kingly glories shine!
 Blest England, if this happiness be thine!

"Guard what you say; the patriotic tribe
 Will sneer, and charge you with a bribe.—A bribe!
 The worth of his three kingdoms I defy
 To lure me to the baseness of a lie:
 And, of all lies, (be that one poet's boast,)
 The lie that flatters, I abhor the most.
 Those arts be their's who hate his gentle reign,
But he that LOVES him has no need to FEIGN."

TABLE TALK.

CHAPTER XVII.

Family history.—Politics.—Birth of George IV.—Traits of character in Queen Charlotte.—Contrast in her fortune and that of CAROLINE LOUISA.—Curious coincidences.—Quaker's address.—A barbarous custom of Eton school.—Comments thereon.—An extraordinary PRELATE.—Original anecdote.—First traits of a shattered mind in George III.—Prudence of the late Queen.—A faithful domestic honourably rewarded.—The BUTEAN system: its effects developed.—Origin of the fatal attempt to tax the American Colonists.—Various characters of Lord BUTE.—Ridiculous prejudices against the Scotch.—WILKES and JUNIUS: their characters examined.—Ministerial folly and insolence.—Anecdote.—Wilkes and Churchill.—Doctor WILMOT supposed to be JUNIUS: his niece (Mrs. SERRES) reported to be the legitimate daughter of the late Duke of Cumberland, brother to George III.—Original anecdote.—JUNIUS discovered, and bribed to silence!—American politics.—Political ball given by Queen Charlotte.—A royal conference.—Strictures.—The King's friends! illustration of that slang phrase.—Injudicious conduct of George III.—Its source.—The stamp act, how received in America.—Ominous presages.—A Virginian patriot.—George III. encourages nautical discoveries.—Family discord.—Princess Augusta's marriage to the Duke of Brunswick.—Illustrative allusions to CAROLINE LOUISA, Queen Consort to George IV.

THE happiness of the young Queen Charlotte increased daily; nor was it long before she found herself in that interesting state, which

'Ladies wish to be who love their lords.'



John Wilkes.



J. A. Fooker.



J. Burdett.



Wm. Cobbett.



A. A. Hunt.

H. Robinson sc.

The busy tongues of prurient gossips had spread rumours of that occurrence some weeks before it was officially announced to the nation. The spirit of Jacobitism was not entirely extinguished; and there were now and then a few mysterious hints given to the public, almost, but not quite, intimating, that all was not, as had been anticipated, in a certain '*great house*;' that a '*great female personage*' was said to be in a declining state of health; that domestic discord prevailed in a certain '*high quarter*;'—insinuations which scarcely excited any other emotion than that of derision; so completely was the attachment to, and the influence of, the Stuart race extinguished by their *bigotry*, in this kingdom. The prospect of the young Queen speedily becoming a mother, and by probability presenting the nation with a male heir to its throne, gave very general satisfaction in the best informed circles throughout the kingdom; for not one of the King's brothers was seen even to approximate towards that moral excellence of character, and strict propriety of demeanour, which marked the reigning Sovereign. Anxious to compliment his Consort, and, at the same time, encourage trade, George III. very wisely determined to celebrate the anniversary of her birth-day on the 18th of January, when the nobility and gentry were certain to be more generally in town; and, consequently, the greater *eclat* would be given to the festival.

At the commencement of the year, war was declared against Spain; every prediction of Mr. Pitt's having been verified to the letter. A few months afterwards, the Earl of BUTE was officially announced as Prime Minister of Great Britain. It will be seen, when he resigned, that his creatures pretended he stepped into office merely to give peace to the nation!

Upon the 12th of August, His present Majesty, GEORGE the FOURTH was born; whose birth was

hailed by exulting millions, as one of the most precious gifts Providence could dispense, and it was celebrated with all the pomp and festivity which the exemplary morals and dignified demeanour of the King and his Consort had excited. The young Queen and her infant certainly presented a fertile theme for congratulation; and no young mother could conduct herself in a manner better calculated to fix the affections of her husband, or endear her character to the nation. It was reported at the time, amongst the domestics of her court, that she repeatedly entreated the King to allow her to nourish her child with her own breast; and that, had it not been for the general opposition the project met with in his court and family, her truly maternal solicitude to fulfil that primary duty would not have been refused. In this, and in every thing connected with her demeanour as a wife and a mother, the late Queen may be considered as offering as fine an example to the nation as any lady that ever reigned; and it gave her a hold upon the affectionate regards of her subjects, so strong and durable, that it kept her popularity buoyant, when she must otherwise have succumbed under the weight of prejudices excited against her by her unpopular bias, and partiality to Lord Bute.

The young Queen, though bred in a German court, where females of the highest rank allow themselves liberties, which, in these islands, would be deemed to the highest degree indelicate, if not indecent, had sufficient good taste and spirit to decline undergoing the ceremony of being married by proxy. And the old domestics, so often alluded to, affirm, that it was with the utmost reluctance, and not till she was informed that the King himself could not exempt her from the necessity of submitting to the painful ceremony, that she could be brought, without expressing the strongest disgust, to contemplate the presence of the Archbishops,

and the Lord Chancellor, in her chamber at her approaching *accouchement*. At last, however, she acquiesced; but it was reported that a sort of *rehearsal* took place, to convince her that the inspection was not quite so minute, as from the strict letter of the law might have been apprehended.

To return to the Queen's *accouchement*:—No sooner had nature performed its course, and the child was born, and the mother safe, than the Park and Tower guns announced the important tidings to the metropolis; and messengers, who had been some time in constant attendance, were dispatched to Holland, Denmark, and Germany, as well as to the principal cities in Great Britain and Ireland. The King is said to have waited the result of the labour with breathless anxiety; and when he found that his hopes were all gratified, and that a Prince was born who was healthy and well-made, in fact, '*a thumping boy*,' the pious husband, and exulting father, is said to have dropped on his knees, and returned, in the most solemn manner, his humble and ardent thanks to his Creator.

A form of religious thanksgiving was immediately drawn up, to be observed in all the churches and chapels in England, Ireland, and Wales. And on the 17th, the infant heir-apparent to the Throne of Great Britain was created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester. A remarkable occurrence accompanied the birth of this Prince (George IV.) Immediately after the young Queen had been put to bed, the treasure captured in the Spanish ship *Hermione*, consisting of specie and bullion, captured on her passage from Manilla to Cadiz, was entering London, from Portsmouth, deposited in a train of waggons, and escorted by a strong military guard. The King, and several of his courtiers, went to the room over the Gate-tower of St. James's Palace, to see those waggons descend along St. James's-street, on the road to the Bank of England.

On this occasion, the King joined in the acclamations of the people, who gave repeated and tremendous hurrahs on hearing of the Queen's happy delivery, and the birth of a Son and Heir. The amount of the treasure thus escorted in triumph, was stated at two millions and a half sterling.

Addresses of congratulation poured in from all quarters of the empire: among which, the one most distinguished by plain good sense, was that from the Society of Friends:—they will not *bend the knee*; but they can, upon occasion, *prostrate the mind*. Their address, in the composition of which the BARCLAY family were probably concerned, teemed with uncalled-for praises of former kings.

“MAY IT PLEASE THE KING,

“The satisfaction we feel in every event that adds to the happiness of our Sovereign, prompts us to request admittance to the throne on the present interesting occasion.

“The birth of a Prince, the safety of the Queen, and thy own domestic felicity increased, call for our thankfulness to the Supreme Dispenser of every blessing; and to the King, for our dutiful and unfeigned congratulations.

“In the Prince of Wales, we behold another pledge of those inestimable privileges which we have enjoyed under the Monarchs of thy illustrious house. Kings distinguished by their justice, their clemency, and regard to the prosperity of the people: a happy presage, that under their descendants *our civil and religious liberties will devolve, to their full extent, to succeeding generations.*

“Long may Divine Providence preserve a life of so great importance to his Royal Parents, to these Kingdoms, and to Posterity; that, formed to PIETY and VIRTUE, he may live beloved of God and man, and fill, at length, the British throne with a lustre not inferior to his predecessors.”

The King's answer was, as formerly, laconic, and good humoured; *viz.*

“I take very kindly this fresh instance of your duty and affection, and your congratulations on an event so interesting to me and my Family. You may always rely on my protection.”

Length of years was acceded to the late King: in how far the patriotic prayer of 'THE FRIENDS,' as regarded the future conduct of his Son and successor, may be realized, time alone can show. May its termination be as happy and brilliant, as its dawn is gloomy, overcast, and lowring!

Scarcely were these festivities begun, before intelligence arrived of an herald of peace having arrived from the enemy's camp; immediately following which event, negociations were commenced that led to the conclusion of the celebrated treaty of Paris: a peace which was stigmatized as being '*disgraceful*' to the country, by those who could not forget nor forgive the indirect policy which had given it birth.

The Royal Infant was baptized the 18th of Sept. and, on the 21st, George III. held a grand installation of Knights of the Garter at Windsor, in honour of this event, and in compliment to his Queen, who accompanied him to that magnificent abode of monarchy; and no less for the gratification of his own taste for that chivalric species of pageantry.

During this visit to Windsor, Eton school* was honoured by a formal state-visit paid by the King,

* The following comments on that relict of feudal tyranny and profound ignorance, the '*Eton Montem*,' was recently published; viz.

"*Eton Montem*.—That foolish ceremony called the Eton Montem took place on Tuesday se'nnight: the practice is founded in barbarous usage, and has no recommendation except what perhaps may be deemed a paramount one—it "works well," that is, it puts two or three hundred pounds into the pocket of the senior boy before he starts for the University. We really think, however, and we never yet met an Etonian beyond the age of 20 who did not hold the same opinion—that it would be more worthy of a noble institution to allow this sum to be collected at some public literary exhibition of the scholars, than to send out a parcel of fantastically dressed children, like so many Bartholomew-show boys, to pick up money from gaping passengers. His Majesty, who probably might feel that any appearance of dis-

Queen, and other branches of the Royal Family, each party all equally pleased; the Royal Family, by the homage rendered to their pre-eminent rank; and the gay scholars, by a weighty purse left for them by the King's order.

On the 22d of November, preliminaries of peace were ratified between the different belligerent states of Europe; every step of which negociation was marked by the murmurs of a free and high-spirited and yet unbroken people, whose affection towards their King was scarcely a counterpoise to the hatred and contempt in which the BUTE* administration was held. The Queen was spoken of very freely, as being covertly concerned in facilitating all the projects of that minister, whose vast and sudden influx of wealth, and its ostentatious display in large establishments, splendid liveries, and costly new structures, gave rise to the most disreputable, and by possibility, the most unjust deductions and surmises. Even the price of Lord Bute's supposed treachery was announced, and the late Queen was rudely calumniated as participating in all the secret machinations to which the public, or at least a very great proportion of the public, imputed the terms of the basis of the impending treaty, and its chance of being fulfilled.

A perfectly unique occurrence, at least in the

approbation of this ancient custom would look ungracious in him, followed the example of his Royal Father, and, with great good-humour and kindness, went through the ceremony of being stopped, and delivering a well-loaded purse to the young highwaymen."—*Times*.

* The heir to the title and estates of this minion married one of the daughters of THOMAS COUTTS, the celebrated banker, whose mother, ELIZABETH STARKEY, a handsome and honest Lancashire girl, served in the humble capacity of housemaid to his elder brother. This lady, the sister of the Countess of Guildford, and of Lady Burdett, lately arrived at Paris from Italy, and was mistaken for our unhappy Queen. Such are the mutations of families, and such the magic influence of boundless riches!

modern history of the church, happened in 1762: Doctor PEARCE, Bishop of Rochester, grown old and infirm, and being conscious he could no longer perform the function of his high station, solicited the King for permission to resign all his ecclesiastical honours and emoluments, and live the short remainder of his days upon his private fortune! The Earl of Bath was entreated, by the conscientious churchman, to lay this, his fervent wish, before the King. A time was specified for an audience. The prelate, at the hour and place appointed, was received, without a third person being present; when the Bishop firmly persisted in his resolution, and humbly entreated the Monarch to take the opinion of his legal advisers, as to the practicability of such a measure, and also as to its mode. The King, about two months afterwards, informed the Bishop of Rochester, that the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench (Lord Mansfield) saw no legal impediment to the proposed *resignation*; and that although the Lord Chancellor had, at first, some doubts, yet ultimately he had agreed that the disinterested request of Doctor Pearce might be conceded. The generous design of the GOOD Bishop was, however, disappointed, through the *aversion* felt by his mitred brothers to so *alarming an innovation*! which insurmountable obstacle having been communicated by the King, the honourable and conscientious prelate submitted to retain a high title, and receive its emoluments, when no longer able to sustain its functions. From that day to the present, no other attempt of this kind has been made!

Pious and resigned, the virtuous and amiable King strove, amidst the endearing recollections of the husband and the father, *to forget* the fair object who had reigned the sole queen of his affections, holding his feelings under the stern control of reason and religion. This painful struggle was probably too powerful for his mind to sustain un-

shaken; it having been rumoured, within a year after his marriage, that the King, at times, had shewn marks of distraction. One of those old men, whose recollection has preserved so many fine traits illustrative of the character of his Royal Master, stated, several years since, that soon after the birth of the Prince of Wales, (George IV.) the King being then at Windsor, called to his head groom, and said, "*Well, master ——, have you dressed ——'s knees? Will he ever be good for any thing again? It was a very bad fall. I thought I was done for.*" The man appeared astonished, not having the most distant comprehension to what his Sovereign was alluding. Surprised at his hesitation, the King said, rather sharply, "*——,* Why don't you give me an answer? It is not your fault, if the horse is spoiled.*" The groom then said, "Sir, I did not understand you. I was afraid it might be rude to ask any explanation; nor do I now know to what horse, or to what circumstance, you refer."—"What!" said the King still more hastily, "*not remember the horse that threw me in yesterday's hunt? What! not know of that accident, when you helped me up, and led away the horse with his knees cut and bleeding?*" The man was then quite confounded. There had been no hunt; nor had any such occurrence happened: his embarrassment was therefore increased to a most painful degree. The King paused awhile, and appeared no less amazed than the groom: he placed his left hand upon his forehead, and exclaimed, in a subdued, pathetic tone, "*Good God! can this vivid impression have resulted from a dream? Has there been no hunt?*"—The groom, a little reassured, said, "No, Sir, there was not any hunt: thank God, you have had no fall."—"Well! Well!

* The name of the man and of the horse were both mentioned, but they are forgotten.

so much the better," said the King, who turned pale as he said, "*Mind, —, don't you mention this to anybody. If you do, people will think I am mad!*"* Of madness, or insanity, the man had no manner of idea: but he was very credulous; he believed in *omens* and *ghosts*, and concluded that the King, whom he highly revered, had encountered some supernatural spectacle, which had been sent to warn him of approaching death.

As became a faithful and discreet servant, the man had sense to hold his tongue; not mentioning the circumstance till after the King's insanity in 1780: then, for the first time, he revealed it to a fellow servant, by whom it was soon spread abroad, and at last it reached the ears of Doctor Willis, who sent for the groom, questioning him very minutely. When the man had ended his singular narrative, Doctor Willis said to another physician who was present, "This certainly alludes to the same affair mentioned by the Queen, as to the first intimation she received, or symptoms she had ever observed, of this awful visitation! They took down the declaration of —, which, at a future time, he was requested to sign. After the King's recovery, this man was ordered to attend the Queen; by whom he was desired to relate every thing that had occurred. She devoured, with an eager ear, every word he uttered. When he had ceased speaking, she said, "*Ah! that was a mournful and a memorable morning to me. I was afraid my King's mind was affected, yet I dared not ask an opinion of any human being, lest I should give birth to so distressing a rumour! But, thank God! the storm is blown over, and his noble mind restored. Well, (to the groom,)*

* Related to the Editor at Weymouth in 1805 and 6, and in London, with some immaterial variation, in 1820. The late Earl of Warwick was present when it was first mentioned in Harvey's reading-rooms, at Weymouth.

so you did not tell your wife?”—“The King told me to hold my tongue, Madam, and it was my duty to obey.”—“*Very true! very true! as the King's wife, I am pleased with such discreet conduct: but what did your wife say? did not she scold you?*”—Saying this, the Queen spoke to a person in waiting, and a very handsome silver tankard, richly embossed and gilt, with a gold medal in front, commemorating his Majesty's recovery, were given to * * * *, as an acknowledgment of the honourable manner in which he had conducted himself.

Returning from this digression to the narrative, it remains to be observed, that this was the *first display* of an approaching deranged intellect, which the Editor can trace. Whoever pleases to combine, as operating causes of that awful malady,—the family discord which obtained whilst his mother was pregnant; his untimely birth; the heavy affliction of disappointed love; the still more difficult and more painful task of treating tenderly and affectionately a foreign woman, whom, from motives of state policy, he had married, but could not love at first sight, yet uniformly manifesting towards her all the gentleness and kindness he could have shewn to the woman of his choice, had they come together;—may, probably, find in them sufficient cause for the visitation, without looking back to ancestors for an hereditary source, or feeling apprehensive of the taint remaining in his progeny.

The conduct of Queen Charlotte, in concealing so carefully the awful impression produced by those early indications of a broken mind, was truly magnanimous, and showed her worthy the honour of being the consort of the best Monarch who had swayed the English sceptre since the Norman conquest. The present she made to the groom, shewed how justly she esteemed the merit of that respectable servant. Her own discretion was of a

higher order. There is every reason to believe, that on this occasion, Sophia Charlotte never communicated the important secret, not even to the mother of the King, nor to one of his or her relatives or attendants.—A strong proof of that high degree of PRUDENCE, which was her leading characteristic throughout life, except on one topic alone, and *there* the power of deep-rooted antipathy overpowered that virtue, and led her to gratify her resentment at the expense of her reputation.

The space taken up in the memoir of the YOUTH of George the Third, and in the commencing chapters of his reign, must have prepared the reader for those results which corrupt practices and indirect courses usually produce in cabinets, or in private life. The base, mean, under-handed means, whereby the Earl of Bute had acquired his too complete ascendancy over the amiable young Monarch, whose brilliant dawn he had obscured, whose unbounded popularity he deeply impaired, if he could not wholly destroy, have already been developed. The detestation in which Lord Bute was held, was so general, that it is possible the most advantageous terms of peace, which the commanding genius of Mr. Pitt might have enforced, would have been found insufficient, coming from Lord Bute, to assuage the storm, or obtain the approbation of the nation. It might, therefore, be said, the nation was not in a state to judge calmly; but whenever so universal a feeling of discontent and aversion prevails in any nation, the fault will invariable be found to rest with the rulers. It was so in the instance under review. The late King acted most injudiciously, in parting with a minister who had redeemed his country from approaching ruin and deep disgrace. The waning popularity of the King, and his increasing political embarrassments, were the natural results of immature judgment, and that lamentable want of experience in

the art of government, which flowed from the anomalous, irregular, and limited education, he had received. The candid historian, on estimating the merits of this Monarch, should take these facts into his serious consideration, and, whilst he condemns the defective policy, point out the poisoned source whence it may be supposed to have emanated.

As the measures of Lord Bute grew more and more unpopular, the King, unfortunately for himself, took the worst of all possible courses to uphold the MINION'S authority namely, he strove to control the ebullitions of popular indignation, to prevent public meetings, to discourage every nobleman or gentleman who had rendered themselves conspicuous on such occasions, and by evincing too great a degree of soreness at the severe strictures which were levelled at his favourite. By this imprudent course, the late King became almost a party in the quarrel; and whilst he hoped and intended to smother public discontent, he increased its intensity, and aggravated its fury. He felt himself compelled to impose new burdens upon the nation, which, although not the result of royal profusion, had a natural tendency to render him less popular with the million, who are generally more sensibly alive to that which acts on their *pockets*, than to their feelings, rights, and liberties. That dreadful state-engine, '*the Excise*,' which has since wrought so immense a change in the character of Englishmen, and the tenure of English liberty; began, like a spreading cancer, to throw out its consuming branches around, and strike deeper its roots. The imposition of a tax on cider, gave the Excise the power to enter even private dwellings. The city of London, animated by a prophetic foresight of the unconstitutional power which might proceed from that great innovation, by petition implored the King to refuse his assent to the measure. What an anomaly in politics was here

displayed. The British House of Commons was supposed to emanate wholly from the people, and to be guided by its voice. Yet, at this early period of the reign, (1763,) the metropolis of the Empire, most justly and reasonably alarmed by a law that went to undermine the security of an Englishman's fireside, were compelled to approach the Throne, to entreat the Sovereign to put his *veto* on a measure which the Lords and Commons had sanctioned. A stronger proof that something was wrong in the composition of the lower House, cannot be selected; for if that assembly had been what it ought to be, never would the nation have had to approach the Throne on such an occasion! It was argued, that if the King had acted thus, he *must* have dismissed his ministers! And why not? When his Majesty perceived how unpopular he was becoming, and that, step by step, Lord Bute was leading him into a quarrel with the nation, by whom, on his accession to the throne, he was all but adored; it was then his duty to have dismissed the minion and all his retainers, and, as a wise Prince, have measured back his steps. This plain and safe line of policy he had not the good fortune to adopt; yet, all his power and influence could not sustain the falling partisan, who *resigned* in the month of March. The most active spirits of the nation hailed the fall of the court-idol as the commencement of a new æra! Unhappily, the hopes of the nation were woefully disappointed. Lord Bute just stepped back, behind the curtain, and *secretly*, and therefore still more unconstitutionally, governed, by his creatures, the rickety cabinet which succeeded. The King retained Lord Bute as his *bosom friend* and *secret adviser*. Mr. Charles Jenkinson, the father of the present Lord Liverpool, was singled out amongst the crowd of incipient statesmen, whom the BUTEAN system hatched, as

the medium of communication between the Sovereign and the favourite.

A person who lay under the imputation of being one of Lord Bute's creatures, and whose talents were of no mean calibre, whatever may have been his claim to respect on the score of integrity, treated of Lord Bute's resignation thus:—'This' (Lord Bute's) 'resignation is in consequence of a resolution *early* taken, and invariably adhered to by this extraordinary person; who seeing this country involved in a consuming war, which, for various reasons, *no person but himself** could put an end to, thought himself called upon, not only as the friend of his Sovereign, but as the *friend of his country*, to undertake the difficult and dangerous task of making peace; this he happily accomplished, and made a peace which speaks for itself. In the prosecution of this great work, his life has been often threatened, and sometimes in danger, from an exasperated multitude; his character has been attacked with a virulence till now unknown; his relatives, his friends, and even the place of his nativity,† have been reviled; and every possible method taken to discredit him with the public, and to ruin him with his Sovereign. This storm he endured, and persevered, with *inconceivable constancy*, till the peace was ratified

* An extraordinary assertion, and certainly a most monstrous untruth!

† This scurility, vented against the Scotch, formed the most objectionable part of the popular proceedings; it was truly disgraceful; but the odium should, in justice, be shared between English party writers, and injudicious Scotch apologists. By a strange inconsistency, Doctor Johnson took a secret pleasure in traducing and reviling the Scottish nation, yet he was himself a sturdy Tory; and the Scotch partisans of Lord Bute were, one and all, staunch Tories. Hence their only defect with the former, was,—having been born on the *wrong* side of the river Tweed!

‘ and approved by Parliament, and the business of
‘ the session brought to a conclusion; then he re-
‘ signed, leaving the new ministry supported by a
‘ great majority in both Houses; as he had too
‘ much honour to aim at obstructing their proceed-
‘ ings. This opinion, of his having taken the resolu-
‘ tion to retire, is confirmed by the mildness of his
‘ administration, and his total neglect of the libels
‘ against him.’

The Editor’s opinion of Lord Bute, as a states-
man, has been too fully and candidly expressed to
need illustration; but as the preceding extract may
be considered as the gist of Lord Bute’s defence,—
motives arising from regard to the impartiality pro-
mised in the prospectus, have induced him to give
it a place. Other of the favourite’s hired or pre-
judiced defenders, have taken a different line, and,
to cover and protect his memory from the imputa-
tion of having enriched himself, affirmed he had
then *half a million of money* in the Bank and other
Stock, and that he had received a fortune of
twenty-five thousand per annum with his wife; and
hence, they strove to infer he had no need for, and
never did *touch* a bribe, or dip his hand into the
public purse! Such is the plea of primeval opu-
lence; set up to disprove Lord Bute’s having im-
proved his fortune at the expense of his country:
but it is capable of mathematical demonstration, that
he gained an enormous fortune from the fees of
office, arising from new commissions on the com-
mencement of the new reign; and the pains he
took, and the length of years he waited, before he
could work his way into the cabinet, (for he began
his operations in the life-time of Frederick Prince
of Wales,) and, above all, the extraordinary dupli-
city of the *means* whereby he acquired the long-
sought object of his ambition; all combine to con-
tradict and overthrow every argument in favour of
his *disinterested* services.

About this period the celebrated political writer, Mr. JOHN WILKES, made his first strong impression on the public mind. The abuse showered upon the memory of this man, by so many ministerial writers, prove how much his pen was dreaded. An imputed profligacy of morals, has been obtruded as an apology for the unconstitutional methods to which, in vain, recourse was had to crush him. And even the proof of that excessive depravity, of which he is so acrimoniously accused, was obtained by an act, which was declared illegal, and visited with a fine, which, it has been asserted, would have been much greater, if the jury had not been impressed with the belief that its amount would be paid from the public purse. The Editor will neither panegyrize nor insult the memory of WILKES, whose importance had perhaps less of personal merit for its basis, than his warm partisans, in the height of his popularity, would have admitted. The simple truth seems to have been, that the ministers found WILKES, (to borrow an idea from the nervous pen of Junius,) ‘*a thorn*’ in their side. Placing too great a confidence in the impunity of official injustice, they had recourse to measures still deeper imbued with the worst spirit of despotism, to put him down, than those which had at first excited the indignation of that gentleman. In these wild, wicked attempts, those ministers inflicted a rankling wound* in the bosom of every

* Just as the messengers were rummaging for papers, and had got Mr. Wilkes in custody by virtue of a General Warrant, CHURCHILL the satirist, entered. With a happy presence of mind, Wilkes, in a careless and half-jocular manner, called him, intentionally, by a wrong name; and excused himself from asking him to stay, on account of some *unexpected* visitors, who had honoured his dwelling with a call.—CHURCHILL, with equal dexterity, took the hint, and withdrew. It has been asserted that the messengers meant to have arrested the poet, having warrants to that effect, had they known his person.

man to whom liberty was dear, and who had sense to see, and courage to proclaim, that the wrong which was that day tried as an experiment upon Mr. WILKES, might soon be pursued as a legal practice, and fall upon his own head. The British nation jealous, but not sufficiently jealous, of despotism, felt the blow that had alighted on the individual in question, who henceforth became incorporated with the rights of the subject, which had been thus daringly assailed and infringed.

A far mightier spirit, shrouded in an awful gloom, which has never yet been dispelled nor penetrated, suddenly uprose, and, casting its impenetrable shield over WILKES, struck, with force irresistible and skill inimitable, successively each of his enemies, who stood aghast and confounded, writhing under the agony of his barbed darts, cowering beneath the impending stroke which menaced political annihilation; unable to resist, unknowing whither to flee, or with whom to capitulate! The universal dread his pen inspired at Court, proved the fearful mass of political corruption that lay fermenting there. This great unknown, possessed the nervous force of Cobbett,—the wit of Sheridan,—the elegance of Burke. He was not always just, in some cases he was ungenerous, in others cruel; nothing seems so strong, but he could make it bend; nothing so minute, but he could feel and separate its component parts. The King, most imprudently, incorporated himself with the system of misrule at which this Titan smote: his daring arm levelled a stroke at the Monarch, that, whilst it made him writhe, it also taught him, whoever the fearful assailant was, that he possessed a master-key to the royal cabinet, and knew its most secret movements, its schisms, and its darling projects! The Monarch forgot his station, when he placed himself in an attitude which invited such an attack; and JUNIUS, in the fury of

an AVENGER, lost sight, not only of good manners, but of good morals; and whilst he warred against a corrupt and dangerous influence, which every hour grew more and more manifest, he violated those principles of honour he appeared to idolize, and in a way which evinced, that whilst he lashed, with such terrible severity, the vices of inferior minds, his own was not without very great failings. Never was a secret so well kept, which so many persons affected fully to understand.*

Whilst those popular characters assailed the measures of Ministers, and even the Crown itself, when the Monarch, imprudently stooping below his dignity, threw himself between his guilty advisers and an indignant people, a far greater source of future disquietude was taking root in the Royal Coun-

* The celebrated Mrs. SERRES, niece to Doctor WILMOT, asserts, and she has many plausible reasons to advance, tending to shew her uncle was the author of those admirable letters, which, as respects their composition, are the finest in any language. Perhaps this Lady has better grounds for asserting that she is the LEGITIMATE daughter of the late Duke of Cumberland, (brother to George the THIRD) than as to her being the niece of him who wrote under the name of JUNIUS.

The Ex-Chamberlain of the Court of Modena,—the elegant, the classical old Knight, so often quoted in these pages—Sir LEVET HANSON; gave it as his opinion, and also as that of the late WARREN HASTINGS, that EDMUND BURKE was their writer. A greater mass of suspicion and conjecture, too, gathered round the name of Sir PHILIP FRANCIS—all which hypotheses only prove that the secret is not yet discovered.

Those who knew the late W. A. MILES, Esq. the quondam friend of the late Mr. PITT, and the author of some admirable Letters addressed to George IV. when he was Prince of Wales, know also that no contemporary writer possessed, in a more eminent degree, the strength, the elegance, and the *bitterness* of JUNIUS. That gentleman was born too late to share the honour of having been the writer of those interesting Epistles; but he assured the Editor, that it was the opinion of Mr. PITT, that BURKE and JUNIUS were one and the same individual. Having no faith in any of the theories that have been advanced and demolished, the Editor will carry the subject no further.

cils, and laying the foundations of the greatest of political changes; whose stupendous consequences, although it has shattered the British Empire, and broken the absolute dominion which the Bourbons had for centuries wielded over France, and has created the strongest REPUBLIC known since the fall of the Roman Commonwealth, has yet displayed *only a small, a very small, portion of its inevitable and vast results!* Whilst the power and influence of the ministers were employing the most harsh, unpopular, and unconstitutional measures, to curb the national spirit, and clip the wings of British freedom, the same evil *Genii* were plotting an attack upon the rights and property of the colonists; aiming at subjecting them and their posterity to whatever taxes the mother country might please to impose.

Throughout the whole frame of the British Constitution, no principle is so clearly defined as that which prohibits the Crown from levying taxes without the consent of the nation. And as no proposition was admitted, even as a subject for discussion, to allow the inhabitants of the American colonies to return a given number of representatives to the British Parliament, and thus tax themselves; it was wholly an illegal, as well as an immoral, enterprise, and one which no patriotic minister would, on any other condition, have contemplated. It has been stated, as an apology for the minister of George the Third, that Sir Robert Walpole had, thirty years earlier, cherished the same views. Be it so: he also intended to establish a general excise, and to render the Crown as despotical, by means of parliamentary corruption, as Charles the First had ever rendered it by military power. The wicked designs of Walpole were adopted and matured by Lord Bute; who, artfully and insidiously, impressed the mind of his Sovereign with a belief that the Colonies, after having been benefited

greatly by the parent state, ought to contribute to the common support of the Empire, without advert-
ing to the necessity of *previously admitting American representatives to the British Parliaments, to watch over their rights and properties.* If that arbitrary principle could have been enforced by the Crown in America, nothing but its own justice, honour, and forbearance, could have prevented its becoming quite ABSOLUTE in England. This was the light in which Lord CHATHAM beheld the daring attempt to tax the Americans; and it was the true light.

Amongst the more trivial matters connected with the year 1763, a grand masqued-ball, given by the Queen at Buckingham House, on the 6th of June, in honour of the King's birth-day, formed a prominent feature; and the more so, as it has been pretended, that it arose from an idea—a very absurd one, if the conjecture was grounded—that the empty pageant of a day would absorb the public attention from the contemplation of national grievances! Mr. Craig considered it in this light, and has thus described the splendid tribute paid to her Royal Husband; *viz.*

“ On the morning of the 4th of June, when the Royal Pair were going from the Queen's Palace to St. James's, Her Majesty proposed that they should remain there till the 6th; which was immediately assented to by the polite and tender Husband. As soon as the Queen had left her house, a great number of workmen, artificers and artists, were set to work, and continued with indefatigable assiduity for the whole intervening time, till the 6th in the afternoon, when their task was completed, and displayed some of the finest and most magnificent pieces of transparent painting that the artists of that time were able to produce. The Queen, in order to engage His Majesty's attention, and to detain him as long as possible at St. James's, desired several ladies to appear at Court that day in the masque dresses, in which they were about to go to the splendid ball the Duke of Richmond proposed to give in the evening. The King thus amused, *and not aware of the intention,* did not go to the Queen's house till near ten o'clock; when, on the window-shutters on that side being suddenly

thrown back, he was surprised and delighted by a brilliant exhibition of a superb temple and bridge standing in the garden, and illuminated with more than four thousand glass lamps, judiciously distributed through the beautiful scenery of the ground.

“The painting in front of the temple represented the King as if giving peace to all quarters of the earth; and near him were the trophies obtained by the numerous British conquests. Under his feet were a group of figures, to personify Envy, Malice, Detraction, and other demons, tumbling headlong from his presence, like the fallen angels in Milton's *Paradise Lost*. In the temple appeared a grand orchestra, and a numerous and well-selected band of the most eminent musical performers.”

Such was the compliment paid to her Husband by Charlotte, who appeared at this time to be the happiest and most perfectly blessed of her sex.

It has often been remarked, that the month of ‘*August*’ has, with a singular frequency of recurrence, been the parent of most important events in the Guelphic annals.—In the past year, on the 12th of August, a Son and Heir to this great Family was born; and on the 16th, in the present year, the Queen gave birth to another male-child, the present Duke of York.

A conference took place between the King and the Earl of Chatham, relative to the formation of an administration. One of the conditions stipulated by that great man, ‘*razée*,’ was, that the Tories should be utterly dislodged the Court, and proscribed there; a very proper step towards saving the State: and had it been carried into execution, the BUTEAN system, and its polluted satellites, had all been sent to the ‘*right about*.’ Then, the American war, and all its fruitful brood of evils, might have been avoided; although, on the other hand, the many *Tory families* might have been reduced to utter insignificance, who now occupy the first posts in the State, and move in a sphere which, by their personal merits, they could never have attained.

The next condition was less tenable: it went to stipulate for an *atonement* to the Duke of Newcastle, to which that feeble man had no rational claims; and its presence denoted the vast breadth and depth of that oligarchical confederacy, commonly and emphatically called, '*Borough-mongering*.'

The Earl also demanded, that Lord Temple should be placed at the head of the treasury; and Lord Albemarle at the head of the army. The King's answer is generally reported to have been; '*Sir, I sent for you, because my people have a great opinion of your abilities; but if I accept the terms you propose, I shall neither do justice to myself nor to them.*'

Another version of this memorable conference, which ended so fatally for the British Empire, states, that upon the King's sending for Mr. PITT (Earl of Chatham), his demands were nearly as before stated, with the additional clog, that the Duke of Cumberland should be Commander in Chief of the Army, and nominate the Secretary of War; and every person who might have been concerned in making the peace, to be removed, Lord Halifax alone exempted. When George III. heard these conditions, he is reported to have said, "Sir, I believe from my feelings, as a man, I have offered as great sacrifices as ever monarch submitted to, merely for the good of my people, *whose minds have been poisoned by ambitious and designing men; but you want to reduce me to such a situation, by disavowing my own act, and what my heart approves, and by giving up my FRIENDS,* to a vain and factious resent-*

* This watch-word for public plunderers has been the bane of the country, and greatly tended to bring on the American war, and those other wars whose *consuming waste* has reduced the empire to its present awful state. The Sovereign, in his political capacity, has no right to FRIENDS nor FAVOURITES.—In his pri-

ment, that I should be unworthy of ever having another FRIEND; and you yourself must first despise, then mistrust me: I will first put the crown on your head, and then submit my head to the block."— This will not do: it is much, very much too petulant and rude to have ever passed the late King's lips. Another account, given by Mr. CRAIG, (p. 139,) runs thus:—"The King had, on these occasions, the further distress of finding the most determined and *scurrilous* opposition to his measures, from those to whom he had been most kind and gracious. Even Mr. Pitt, on whom His Majesty had, without hesitation, bestowed a pension of three thousand pounds a year, and afterwards a Peerage, generally attacked *the King* in his speeches in the House of Lords, and sometimes in the most *indecent* manner. The remark which this judicious Monarch made to the Queen, on referring to one of these occurrences, has been related to me by a lady who was present; and it proves both the correctness of his judgment, and his *deep insight* into human affairs. Her Majesty remarked, on the statement she had just heard, 'Sir, I think you have met with more ungrateful men, than any other man I know of.'—'*My dear,*' answered the King, '*I am not surprised at it; I have had more power than any other to make* UNGRATEFUL MEN.'"

This is more rational than the preceding, but not much more creditable. Instead of Mr. Pitt having

vate circles, let him multiply both as far as his heart desires; but as a MONARCH, wherever a strong PARTIALITY prevails, as strong an AVERSION may be expected; and each is alike unbecoming and dangerous to the welfare of the State. This ominous phrase commenced with Lord BUTE, and ran its career down to the latest hours of the late King's reign! But when the *reins* of power, and the *power* to administer to the cupidity of courtiers, had passed into other hands, there also vanished those rapacious, hollow, interested FRIENDS. A patriot king, in his monarchical function, should have no such epithets allowed.

been a gainer by the pension and peerage, his acceptance is generally considered as the weakest action of his public life: and Mr. PITT's absence from the House of Commons removed the greatest living check to that overwhelming torrent of secret influence and corruption, then in existence. As Walpole expressed himself of Mr. Pulteney, it was '*turning the key upon him!*'—Nor is there any peculiar generosity, in bestowing that which does not come from the purse or the capital of the donor, nor make him a ducat the poorer, though he confers thousands. Many of our parasitical writers praise the generosity of monarchs, who give pensions from the public purse, with as great appearance of wonder and admiration at their generosity, as if, like the fabulous kindness attributed to the pelican, such kings had fed the *state-paupers* with their royal blood, coined into guineas!

The year 1764, as far as the politics of the ministers were concerned, gave a large increase to popular discontent; and as the King still persevered in upholding the BUTEAN system, his official embarrassments grew more serious. The fault of having provoked the American revolutionary war by injustice, and continued it to the last possible moment, form the darkest spots in the annals of George III. but the principle out of which the contest grew, had been so carefully inculcated on the Royal mind by Lord BUTE and his Tory-coadjutors, that the young Prince was not conscious of the wrong he was meditating; and however ruinous it proved to his country, or injurious to his own fame, the defect arose from the secluded manner in which he had been reared,—restrained from mixing with the great world or the little, and shut out from all interference with the executive government of his future kingdoms, with as much of narrow, ungenerous policy, as if the Heir to the Throne

had been its most dangerous foe. To these defects in the government of the kingdom under George II. ought to be attributed every great political error of George III. Such considerations are necessary, to soften the harsh feature of a generally credited rumour, that the late King was the first promoter of the fatal project of taxing the inhabitants of the North American colonies, *without admitting* them to any share of representation in the assembly by which those taxes were to be enacted. It reflects much deeper discredit on the House of Commons of the day, which carried its obsequiousness so far as to pass the obnoxious laws in defiance of their radical injustice, and of the proud, stern, republican cast of character, so perceptible in the local institutions and personal manners of the British Americans. Thus was that measure decided, which, in whatever point it is viewed, was more deeply imbued with bad principle, and more likely to lead to the last extreme of political injustice, than the ship-money exaction levied by Charles the First. The colonists, whose forefathers had quitted their native shores to escape from the curse of brutal despotism, had, as Burke expressed himself, a very keen scent, and snuffed, at an immense distance, the tainted gale, ere the unjust and impolitic mandate alighted on their shores. In a moment, the great mass of inhabitants took fire at the insult; and men of the most passive character as husbands, fathers, masters, or neighbours, were filled with serious apprehensions of approaching ruin; and bravely they resolved, at the hazard of life and property, to resist its first approach, and fearlessly protect their children from slavery and oppression. Such was the effect of the subserviency of GRENVILLE! who, rather than resign, acted, as he is stated to have declared, against his own conscience, and then cowardly and basely threw the odium upon the King!

The Virginians were amongst the most decided enemies to *British taxation*. One of the members of the Colonial assembly for that State, a Mr. PATRICK HENRY, in a strain of lofty declamation, was inveighing warmly against the stamp act; but more so against the dangerous principle upon which it was founded: he is stated to have exclaimed, with all the energy of a man who loved liberty, and was ready to brave death in its defence,—‘*Cæsar had his Brutus,—Charles had his Cromwell,—and George the Third*’—(at this word, the Speaker shouted aloud, Treason! Treason! Order! Order! when, collecting all the energies of a generous soul thus fired by patriotism, the orator assumed a prouder attitude, and fixing his eye, beaming with indignation, on the Speaker, thus admirably brought himself off)—‘*may, if he has sense enough, PROFIT by their example.*’ The ultra royalists, who were ready to move for the commitment of the daring legislator, stood abashed and confounded. His courage was applauded by his fellow-planters,—his wit extolled; and tens of thousand indignant colonists re-echoed the sentiments that Mr. Henry had thus dexterously avoided expressing.

The event most creditable to the memory of the late King, was the liberal grants allowed for the promotion of navigation, astronomy, and all the sciences dependent on new discoveries; of which the honour belonged principally, if not exclusively, to the Sovereign. It was in this year, 1764, that Commodore Byron departed on a voyage of nautical discovery.

The most important family incident in 1764, was the marriage of the Princess Augusta, a fine young woman, high-spirited, and accomplished, who had attained the mature age of twenty-seven years, to the hereditary Prince of Brunswick. It might justly be regarded as ridiculous, to suppose that a lady, towards whom nature had been so lavish, should

have no stronger motive for marrying than to get away from the presence and control of the late Queen; but it was generally understood, that she felt so uneasy from the mutual dislike that prevailed, and the King's partiality, that her expressed resolution of quitting the Court, accelerated this event. On the 10th of January, the young hero landed; on the 16th, he was married; and on the 25th, the Princess and her Spouse departed for Brunswick. The justice of the preceding comments, and elucidations of the misfortunes of CAROLINE LOUISA, the daughter of this distinguished pair, and Queen Consort of GEORGE the FOURTH, and, incomparably, the GREATEST WOMAN that ever the Brunswick line produced or possessed, is thus powerfully corroborated by the avowed panegyrist of Queen CHARLOTTE; viz.

“Congratulations by individuals, and from public bodies, (says Mr. Craig,) were poured in upon the Throne, on this occasion of domestic felicity; and though they might be matter of form and ceremony, with regard to some, *they must have come from the heart, in the addresses of others, who, if they were NEAR OBSERVERS, must see how likely it would be to INCREASE the King's domestic happiness, by REMOVING TO A DISTANCE, under apparently very favourable circumstances, an elder sister, who felt herself SUPERSEDED and rivalled at home.*”—(p. 89.)

Expressions much less courteous might be selected to corroborate, if it were necessary, the important facts already developed. And if it be considered, that the hand which pressed so heavily upon, had indirectly and circuitously expelled, even her mother, from her native country, it ought, and it will, in every feeling mind, swell the full tide of sympathy, that, to the honour of human nature, pervades the whole nation.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The King afflicted by insanity.—Wise and delicate conduct of the Queen.—Original anecdote.—The King's recovery.—Proposes a Regency-Bill.—His Speech relative thereto.—Secret influence.—The Princess Dowager of Wales.—The Earl of Bute.—Horace Walpole.—An intrigue —A repulse.—The vanity of the London Barbers; how displayed and punished.—Fashions ruinous to Trade.—Patriotic conduct of the King and Queen.—Original note on true commercial wisdom.—Death of William Duke of Cumberland.—Strictures on his character.—Original anecdote.—Earl of Chatham; or a great man in little company.—General Conway.—George III. and Rousseau.—Marriage of the Princess Caroline Matilda.—Original anecdote.—Family history.—The King and Doctor Samuel Johnson.

THE year 1765, was principally memorable, as regarded the personal history of George III. by the progress of that mental disease, whose first appearance has been noticed in the preceding chapter. As this sad malady has supplied so much matter for public discussion and national regret, the Editor took the greater pains to investigate its most probable source, and earliest appearance.

At the commencement of the year, the Princess Dowager spoke to the Queen concerning an unusual wildness in the eyes of the King, and an utter incoherency of discourse which she had observed gradually increasing, but which, at their last interview, acquired a force she could not contemplate without deep alarm. The Queen heard her mother-in-law with respectful attention, and then, for the first time, communicated the result of

her own observations and experience, and they concluded that there was every reason to fear an approaching fit of insanity. Yet, greatly as they dreaded that development, they were no less fearful of accelerating the progress of mental derangement, by calling the King's attention to the subject, or by consulting the physicians; but waited, in awful suspense, either an abatement of the symptoms, or that increase which would compel them to take medical advice, without any risk of offending the King by precipitancy of conduct.

In the beginning of March that crisis arrived, but unaccompanied by those extremely violent emotions which shewed, many years later, how deep the seeds of insanity were sown. In the present instance, the wanderings of the imagination led the King to mistake one person for another, and threw him into all those embarrassments so likely to result from improper, or, rather, the unconscious communication of ideas not connected with the persons whom he sometimes addressed. In treating of subjects so little understood, and which were, at the time, as far as possible, shrouded in secrecy, it would be equally arrogant and presumptuous to pretend to very copious or authentic information. There are, however, some facts, which have been sanctioned by respectable authority, which, if true, leave little doubt that his mind was irreparably shaken by the shock sustained on relinquishing Lady Sarah Lenox, and marrying the Princess of Mecklenburg. In one instance, the afflicted Monarch was said to have imagined Queen Charlotte was Lady Sarah, and to have expressed rapidly and eloquently, all the force of his first passion,—and in another fit, to have struck Lord Bute with his horse-whip; and with indignant vehemence to have reproached the Princess Dowager for the insidious part she had acted in breaking off that match. Other accounts—and all derived

from persons belonging to the royal establishments —imputed the temporary derangement of intellect to the extreme anxiety of the Monarch as to points of faith, and a strong inclination to the *new*, or evangelical, doctrines. Whatever credit, if any, may be due to the latter rumours, the discretion which marked the conduct of the late Queen in concealing, as far as in her power, the infirmity of her virtuous and benevolent husband's mind, as well as her inexhaustible patience, tenderness, and good humour, under the severe trials to which this affliction was believed to have exposed her, shewed how grateful a feeling she retained of the mighty obligations he had conferred upon her. The malady did not last long, it soon yielded to the rules of art; but his fine locks were shorn, and the illustrious patient was secretly treated as insane patients were in those days. Soon after his recovery, the King addressed a message to the House of Lords and Commons, in which, after alluding to his late indisposition, he called upon parliament to adopt certain specific measures which would be essential to the safety and tranquillity of the state, in the event of its pleasing God to put a period to his life whilst his successor was of tender years. By this message, the King submitted to the two Houses the expediency of vesting in him the power to nominate, by a formal written instrument, under his sign manual, his Consort, or any other person or persons, to act as guardian of his successor, and Regent of the three kingdoms, till the age required of that heir, by the law of the land, should be attained.

It is easy to perceive, that it was not his Majesty's *death* which was thus provided against, but the too probable return of that mental disease which is justly esteemed as the most awful of visitations. It is not probable the real nature of the late malady was not understood, although, from

motives of laudable delicacy, no direct allusions were made to the proximate cause of these wise precautions. And as both Houses fully concurred in accelerating the King's wishes, the bill was soon prepared; and when ready to receive the royal assent, his Majesty expressed his feelings as follows:—

“ MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN,

“ The provisions which have been made for the administration of the Government, in case the Crown should descend to any of my children under the age of eighteen years, whilst they add strength and security to our present establishment, give me the kindest and most convincing proof of your confidence. The sense I have of the important trust reposed in me, and my desire to repay this mark of your affection, by discharging *my part* agreeably to your intentions, in the manner most beneficial to my people, have concurred to make me execute, *without delay*, the powers with which you have invested me. *This is already done*; and you may rest assured, that, as far as depends upon me, those salutary provisions shall never be ineffectual. It is my ardent wish, and it shall be my ardent endeavour, on this, and on every other occasion, to perpetuate the happiness of my subjects, and to transmit to posterity the blessings of our invaluable constitution.”

The King, on the 5th of April, appeared in public at a Levee, held at St. James's; and on the 24th, he went in state to Parliament, to propose the Regency Bill,; and on the 15th of May, the bill passed into a law, and was succeeded by a new administration!

Although the wishes of the King had been thus cheerfully met, all his influence was insufficient to prevent an attempt being made to exclude the Princess Dowager, his mother; and it would puzzle the most ingenious casuist to find any one good and substantial reason why that busy, meddling Princess should, during the life-time of a young and healthful Queen, have been thought of

on this occasion.* In defiance of the general and marked aversion which prevailed against the Princess Dowager and Lord Bute, the King still persevered in those meetings at Carlton-House with that obnoxious Peer; where a majority of the nation believed an unconstitutional and anomalous sort of *secret-cabinet* was held, through the baleful influence of which, the measures of the ostensible ministers were supposed to be directed and controlled.

That such was the *object* of those regular and regulated meetings, there is little reason to doubt; and the late King would have shewn more true dignity and wisdom, if, having found how strong and deep-rooted a national jealousy had obtained, he had desired his mother to exclude Lord Bute from her presence, at least, when he visited her.

Horace Walpole, in the broadest terms possible, consistent with decency of language, asserted that a disreputable connexion subsisted between the Earl of Bute and the mother of the late King.†

* Dr. Smollet, in his celebrated history, alluded, with proper caution and delicacy, to this indisposition of George III. a circumstance which, reaching the King, is said to have occasioned him some uneasy reflections. Upon a second edition being printed, those allusions, for they were no more, were wholly omitted.

† “The King,” says Walpole, “quarrelled with Bute before he came to the throne. It was his mother, the Princess Dowager, who forced her son to employ that nobleman. “*I am as much convinced of an AMOROUS CONNEXION between BUTE and the Princess Dowager as if I had seen them together.*—The Princess Dowager,” continues this bold denouncer of royal vices,—“was a woman of strong mind. When she was very ill, she would order her carriage, and drive about the streets, to shew that she was alive. The King and Queen used to go and see them every evening at eight o'clock; but when she got worse, they went to see her at seven, pretending they mistook the hour. The night before her death they were with her from seven till nine. She kept up the conversation as usual,—went to bed, and was found dead in the morning. She died of the evil, (scrofula) which quite consumed her.”—Walpoliana, vol. I. p. 89 and 90.

The Editor, partly from abhorrence of the cruelty of assailing the honour of a woman, and no less from the powerful reasons of a contrary tendency, adduced by JOHN LOWE, and other living witnesses, has expressed an opinion that those censorious reports were wholly groundless. He is not so vain as to suppose his decision will produce any powerful effect either one way or the other: and the sole cause of his alluding to it at this period, is the extraordinary degree of popular indignation under which they laboured. They both, in a high degree, held the people and their opinion in utter contempt; and they obtained abundance of hatred and defiance in return. Blinded to all the faults of his mother by those strong feelings of filial affection and religious veneration so deeply implanted in his virtuous mind, and cherishing favourable sentiments towards Lord Bute, a sense of justice led the King perhaps too far, in acting, as he conceived, up to its dictates, and opposing his personal sentiments to the expressed sense of the nation. A conduct that partook more of obstinacy than firmness, and which gave rise to those angry altercations and discussions wherein Wilkes and Junius acted such conspicuous parts.

The Princess of Wales, by Lord Bute's desire, is said to have used her utmost influence to induce the King to take his former favourite once more into his councils; a measure which the Sovereign was too prudent to hazard, and more especially in the feverish state of the popular mind. A plot appears to have been formed for the indirect admission of the ex-minister. It was a custom with the King to order the Secretary of State to transmit state-papers to Carlton-House at a certain hour, for his perusal. On the day that the Rockingham administration came into office, the first despatches were commanded to be sent to the Monarch at *his mother's* residence. When the King received the

box from the messenger, he rose, to retire to another apartment, to peruse the papers in private. At this moment the Earl of Bute officiously took up a pair of lights, which he carried before his Sovereign, who did not interrupt him till they had reached the door of the chamber to which the King intended to go. There he stoped short, and taking the candlesticks from the abashed courtier, significantly and silently gave him a repulse, which mortified his pride no less, than it was fatal to his hopes. This anecdote has been quoted as a proof that George III. was not in the habit of consulting Lord Bute and the Princess Dowager; but its real application goes no farther than to shew that the King saw through the clumsy stratagem, and determined to punish the intriguer by thus uncere- moniously dismissing him at the door.

Amongst the lighter incidents of the year 1765, the Barber's Corporation rendered themselves eminently ridiculous; first, by going in procession to Court with a petition, to pray the King to encourage, for their benefit, the use of periwigs; and next, by many of the impertinent delegates actually wearing their *own hair*! They were hooted and laughed at; and the indignant mob, seizing some of those who wore their own locks, quickly disencumbered of that incompatible ornament, those who wished the King to *compel* all his subjects who could afford it, to appear in wigs.

As the opulent tradespeople, as well as the nobles and gentry, were much in the habit of wearing articles of French manufacture, the King and Queen exerted their influence, by the example they shewed, to counteract the tendency of fashion to distress manufactures and mechanics.* On the

* The Editor, during several years, strove to prove the *self-destructive* principles intertwined with the state-policy of *British Commerce*. During his residence on the Continent, he had nu-

celebration of his Birth-day, the King caused it to be announced that he expected that no articles of *foreign manufacture* should be worn at court. The intention was decidedly honourable to the King,

merous opportunities of hearing the sentiments of the first merchants of Holland, Germany, and the Northern nations. After his return, and at the zenith of an *usurped* commerce, by which nearly the whole world was laid under contributions, he made several attempts to prove the expediency of ameliorating the *exacting and repelling-code*, as also to moderate, and more strictly define, the operation of our maritime jurisdiction. In 1812, he aimed at convincing the Ministers of the Crown, that if they would not adopt a more liberal and rational *principle* than that of *excluding* every thing which interfered with local British interests, and enforce *abroad*, by all their influence, the same selfish and anti-social system, that the mere force of *popular opinion* would compel, even the most friendly of foreign governments, to encourage native industry, and counter-act, as far as possible, the British colonial and exclusive system of trade. His efforts were as vain as if he had preached to rocks and stones. But time, that developes all great truths, and invariably detects and exposes all great impositions, has more than verified his predictions. An universal feeling of *dislike* to the politics of Great Britain,—which, in 1815, displayed their *character* in traits too legible not to be duly appreciated by every nation to whom political freedom, or the freedom of commerce and of the seas, were objects of importance—gave, not merely expansion, but concentration and intensity, to the Anti-Britannic compact. By cutting off each petty rill that fed, in other days, the mighty stream of British power and prosperity, (in addition to all other adverse contingencies) the fulness of the current was soon perceived to recede at each point of its former boundary, till, at the present hour, so alarming is the *prospect* of future, as well as so heavy the pressure of present commercial distress, that ministers are evidently appalled at what has long since been, not merely foretold, but *proved* by the best principles of political arithmetic, as the *natural* and the *inevitable* result of a selfish and grasping policy, that would suck dry all the fountains of prosperity belonging to foreign states, and not allow any fair equivalent in return.

Whatever may have been the defects of the Earl of Bute, he is said to have had sense to perceive the folly of our commercial system. His Lordship negotiated a treaty with Spain, whereby all the products and manufactures of either country were to have been admissible, on the payment of low *reciprocal duties*. Not having his authorities at hand, the Editor cannot give dates or

and proved his patriotism and benevolence ; but as a remedy capable of counteracting the tide of fashion, it was, and ever will be, nugatory, whilst all, or nearly all, the opulent and middle classes of society seek after foreign articles of dress for common wear, in defiance of heavy duties, and heedless of the domestic distress and misery occasioned by their levity.

The King's family increased this year by the birth of the present Duke of Clarence. The infant Prince of Wales, at the age of three years and three months, was created a Knight of the Garter!* Nor was this his first public appearance ; for the Society of Ancient Britons, more than a year previous to this event, had waited upon the child with a very grave address ! The motive of this early

names ; and the treaty was not ratified. Whether it is *possible* to renovate our declining commerce and manufactures, without accelerating that *final financial explosion* which is, perhaps, rather an object of hope *to the nation* than of dread, is a point of too great magnitude and too many intricate combinations, to be touched upon here ; but the Editor has ever been of opinion, that were a *perfectly reciprocal* commercial treaty to take place, as well with France as all other nations, that the balance of trade would, for a long series of years, be enormously advantageous to these kingdoms. The light and exhilarating wines of France might then be drunk in London, at a price not far exceeding that of *ale* ; and English cottons and hardware find venders and consumers where ever there was wealth or enterprise. Some trades would suffer ; others go to ruin ; amongst those, the silk-manufactories ; but new and profitable sources of employment would even arise for those very weavers. But whilst England labours under the curse of excessive taxation, which, more than all the Anti-Britannic combinations, destroys the minute and secret ducts and tubes which are essential to a free and prosperous home-trade, and enhances the price of bread high above its level in France and other manufacturing and rival nations, neither the Minister of the Crown, nor committees of petitioning merchants, will be able, however willing, to devise and apply any efficient remedy.

* Napoleon, at the zenith of his power, went to a much greater extent, in a flight of this sort, and created his infant boy, KING of ROME !

obtrusion of the heir apparent upon the attention of the nation was, no doubt, to increase the admiration and attachment of the people; but it was calculated to produce a different effect, and diminish, instead of increasing, a feeling veneration towards the monarchy.

Amongst the King's domestic vicissitudes, the death of William, Duke of Cumberland, was the most important: his health had long been declining. The enmity of the Princess Dowager, and the dawning brilliancy of a new reign, the omission of his name in the liturgy, and numerous other causes, threw him into comparative obscurity, wounded his mind, and, if it did not break his heart, accelerated his death. His feelings were outraged, at seeing the Court filled with Tories, who had been more or less deeply embarked in plots against the House of Brunswick in the former reign; and he felt, at this gloomy period of his life, that Providence avenges every immoral act, by giving it a self-avenging principle. No doubt he lamented too late the savage measures he had pursued against the honest loyalists of the north, whose fidelity to an exiled and a worthless race of kings, was honourable to their national character, however strong their local prejudices, or discreditable their preference of absolute despotism to constitutional rule. The Duke was not without some noble qualities: too late he saw that even his own father could hurry him into measures that could not stand the test of historical investigation. He felt that he had been used as an instrument of *vengeance*; and it redounds to his credit, if the compunction which he was said to have expressed, was well grounded and sincere. It is probable the Duke had taken care to destroy such of his confidential papers as he wished should not be perused by the Princess Dowager, or her Tory counsellor, Lord Bute: but this conjectural line of argument in no ways diminishes the gentle-

manly demeanour of the King, who, upon the key of his late uncle's* cabinet being presented to him by the executor, returned it, and told Lord Albermarle to examine the private papers, and destroy every thing which his uncle, if living, might have desired to keep concealed. In December, the youngest brother to the King, Prince Frederick, died, in his sixteenth year. The titular King of Great Britain died at Rome, in the 78th year of his age; who might, perhaps, have ascended the throne of his ancestors, if he had followed the advice of his aunt, Queen Anne, and have agreed to a constitutional charter, more liberal in its provisions for the security of the subjects' liberty than that of William III. and have renounced the Catholic religion, and, with it, his subjection to the Pope. It is remarkable, that the schisms which prevailed amongst the descendants of the exiled monarch were as notorious, and almost as *inveterate*, as those which obtained in the house of Brunswick, his successors. This weak and unfortunate gentleman was the father of CHARLES-EDWARD, who headed the malcontents of Scotland in 1745, and of Henry, created

* Horace Walpole states, "Soon after Mr. Gibbon published his last volumes, he attended the levee of William Duke of Cumberland, who saluted him with this elegant flattery,—'What! Mr. Gibbon! still scribble! scribble!' There was a family named READ, who resided near Edingburgh, whose house was the Duke's residence either during, or subsequent to, the military operations over which he presided. A GOOSE was then sitting over a lot of eggs; and when the goslings appeared, the Duke took so much notice of *them*, (however he might slight Mr. Gibbon!) that the whole brood were spared, and called '*the Cumberland hatch*;'—the last of which progeny recently died at the venerable age of *seventy-two years*. The family, who in 1745 were poor farmers, became comparatively opulent, and each descent baptized their eldest son '*Cumberland*;' and the family is generally distinguished by the appellation, '*The Cumberland Reads*!'"—(Derived from Peter Forester, Esq.)—*Editor*.

a Cardinal, and pensioned, in the hour of adversity, at a later period, by George III.

The year 1766 was distinguished by nothing very particularly from its predecessor. The same confusion and instability prevailed in the Cabinet; the same obnoxious influence was supposed to operate in secret; the same unconstitutional spirit to animate the leading measures of an imbecile administration, as respected the liberty of the British subject at home, or the rights and property of the North American colonists. In vain the nation raised its warning voice: it was contemned by those who found their account in supporting the politics of the Court, regardless of present or of remote consequences. There was nothing round the King but weak and temporizing ministers, who, alarmed at the storm excited by their own acts, and too pusillanimous to own the offspring of their incapacity and meanness, rashly undertook a cause that was far beyond their utmost power to support; and when they found themselves sinking, arraigned indirectly their Sovereign, and wounded his peace of mind, and sullied his fame, much more radically than either Wilkes or Junius. In the discussions connected with the repeal of the odious American stamp act, the King's personal feelings and wishes were very indecently brought into play by ministers, to parry or repel the hard blows dealt by their bolder and abler opponents. The Rockingham administration having fallen to pieces, the Duke of Grafton became first Lord of the Treasury, and the Earl of Chatham appeared as *Lord Privy Seal*! Unfortunate for the living race of Britons and their posterity, was that transposition which removed this once truly great statesman from the House of Commons! Had he remained a Commoner, and kept faithful to his avowed principles, that most awful and irreparable of all our national calamities, the loss of the American colonies, might have been

avoided! He was now allied to official imbecility, without power to avert disgrace, or operate any great public benefit! and fallen so far below his former proud elevation, that mere *pigmies* of the democratic school looked down upon him! Under all these changes, the King's popularity decreased on every side; and whilst no man could, with justice, impugn his motives, his line of domestic and colonial politics was loudly condemned. The appointment of *General Conway* to the office of Foreign Secretary of State, added to the prevailing ill humour, and was construed by many as an incontestible proof of the King's PARTIALITY to military men, and a strong indication that he secretly aimed at becoming absolute, by means of a corrupted parliament, and a large standing army. Those imputations were probably unjust; but they received so strong and plausible a colouring from many unconstitutional acts of his ministers, or of the local magistracy, that the public mind was powerfully agitated; and public marks of anger penetrated to the inmost recesses of his palace. Such were the early effects of the culpable manner in which George III had been educated; and such the bitter fruits of the dark and ambiguous counsels of his ambitious mother, and of the dangerous minion so often named in these pages.

About this period, the King granted a pension to the elegant and subtle (French) writer, ROUSSEAU. The act was truly liberal and graceful in the King; and that wonderful genius acted very inconsiderately by throwing it up, when he had an open breach of friendship with Mr. Hume. The King had given Rousseau no offence; and his rejection of the pension not having been occasioned by any personal act of disrespect on the part of his royal Patron, wore a stronger stamp of rudeness and pettishness than of a truly independent spirit.

The year 1766 was fatal to the peace and happi-

ness, and, eventually to the honour, of that sweet girl—a WOMAN she could scarcely be called—the Princess CAROLINE MATILDA, the posthumous child of Frederick Prince of Wales. At the early age of FIFTEEN the beautiful and amiable creature, from regard to political interests, was married to her first cousin, Christian the Seventh, King of Denmark! a good-natured, gay, dissipated, wild, young monarch, who was scarcely arrived at manhood, when, by blameable excesses, the result of bad counsels and worse companions, he found his constitution irreparably ruined. These facts were so notorious, that the plea of ignorance cannot be offered; and every sad result which followed, common prudence might have foreseen. She was, as JOHN LOWE called her, ‘*the flower of the family.*’ When she was sent away to Denmark, she was observed to look pale, cheerless, and the bursting tear to glisten in her eye. Nor could all the parade attendant on her voyage, nor the prospect of sharing the throne of Denmark with her handsome and accomplished *first cousin*, chase away the despondency by which she was oppressed.

The late Mr. George Selwyn, whose opinion was asked by the Princess Dowager what he thought of the *husband* that the King had selected for Matilda? replied, in a very serious tone, “If I may be candid, Madam, I fear the sweet girl will never obtain a HUSBAND by going to Denmark to marry that giddy boy, the King.”—“Why so?” said the Princess.”—“Because his health and morals are equally, and, I fear, irreparably, destroyed. Pardon me, my Princess, (continued he,) that, loving your Matilda, as I do, with a father’s affection, I cannot help regarding her as a sacrifice to state-policy: and I greatly dread the result will be most unfortunate.”

The present Queen Dowager of Wirtemberg, another victim to state-marriages, was born a week

previous to the unhappy wedding (by proxy) of the Princess Matilda, namely, 24th September, 1766. And on the 2d of November, 1767, the late popular and beloved Prince, the Duke of KENT, was born. Just previous to which event, the Duke of York, next brother to the late King, died in Italy. Thus, as the hand of death swept away one part of the Royal Family, the loss was quickly repaired by the Queen's fertility. And amongst all the concussions of party politics, the King and Queen lived in the happiest possible manner, presenting as fine a model of domestic rule, as ever was seen in Great Britain, or in any other court or country.

The last occurrence connected with the life of the late King, previous to the year 1768, intended for this Memoir, is the interview and conversation which took place between George III. and Doctor SAMUEL JOHNSON, whose literary talents and reputation were then in 'full bloom,' according to Horace Walpole's significant expression;—*viz.*

"The King being informed that Dr. Johnson occasionally visited the royal library, gave orders that he should be informed when the Doctor came thither again. This was done; and no sooner was the doctor seated, than the librarian went to communicate the intelligence to His Majesty, who condescended immediately to repair to the spot. Johnson, on being told that the King was in the room, started up and stood still. The King, after the usual compliments, asked some questions about the libraries of Oxford, where the Doctor had lately been, and inquired if he was then engaged in any literary undertaking. Johnson replied in the negative, adding, that he had pretty well told the world what he knew, and must now read to acquire more knowledge. The King said, 'I do not think that you borrow much from any body.' Johnson said he thought he had done his part, as a writer. 'I should have thought so too,' replied His Majesty,

‘if you had not written so well.’ The King having observed, that he must have read a great deal; Johnson answered, that he thought more than he read, that he had read a great deal in the early part of his life, but having fallen into ill health, he had not been able to read much, compared to others; for instance, he said he had not read much, compared with Dr. Warburton. On this the King said, he had heard that Dr. Warburton was a man of such general knowledge, that you could scarcely talk with him upon any subject on which he was not qualified to speak; and that his learning resembled Garrick’s acting, in its universality. His Majesty then talked of the controversy between Warburton and Lowth; and asked Johnson what he thought of it. Johnson answered, ‘Warburton has more general, more scholastic learning: Lowth is the most correct scholar. I do not know which of them calls names best.’ The King was pleased to say he was of the same opinion, adding, ‘You do not think then, Dr. Johnson, that there was much argument in the case.’ Johnson said he did not think there was. ‘Why, truly,’ said the King, ‘when once it comes to calling names, argument is pretty well at an end.’ His Majesty then asked him what he thought of Lord Lyttleton’s History; it was just then published. Johnson said, he thought his style pretty good, but that he had blamed Henry too much. ‘Why,’ said the King, ‘they seldom do these things by halves.’—‘No, Sir,’ answered Johnson, ‘not to kings:’ but fearing to be misunderstood, he subjoined, that for those who spoke worse of kings than they deserved, he could find no excuse; but that he could more easily conceive how some might speak better of them than they deserved, without any ill intention; for as kings had much in their power to give, those who were favoured by them, would frequently from gratitude exaggerate their praises; and as this pro-

ceeded from a good motive, it could be excused. The King then asked him what he thought of Dr. Hill. Johnson answered, that he was an ingenious man, but had no veracity; and immediately mentioned, as an instance of it, an assertion of that writer, that he had seen objects magnified to a much greater degree, by using three or four microscopes at a time, than by using one. 'Now,' added Johnson, 'every one acquainted with microscopes knows, that the more of them he looks through, the less the object will appear.'—'Why,' replied the King, 'this is not only telling an untruth, but telling it clumsily; for if that be the case, every one who can look through a microscope, will be able to detect him.' But that he might not leave an unfavourable impression against an absent man, the Doctor added, that Dr. Hill was, notwithstanding, a very curious observer; and if he would have been contented to tell the world no more than he knew, he might have been a very considerable man, and needed not to have recourse to such mean expedients to raise his reputation. The King then talked of literary journals; mentioned particularly the *Journal des Sçavans*, and asked Dr. Johnson if it was well done. Johnson said it was formerly well done; and gave some account of the persons who began and carried it on for some years, enlarging at the same time on the nature and utility of such works. The King asked him if it was *now* well done. Johnson answered, he had no reason to think it was. The King next inquired if there were any other literary journals published in this kingdom, except the *Monthly Critical Reviews*; and on being answered there were no others, his Majesty asked which of them was the best. Johnson said, that the *Monthly Review* was done with the most care; the *Critical* upon the best principles; adding, that the authors of the former were hostile to the church. This the

King said he was sorry to hear. The conversation next turned on the Philosophical Transactions; when Johnson observed, that the Royal Society had now a better method of arranging their materials than formerly. ‘Aye,’ said the King, ‘they are obliged to Dr. Johnson for that;’ for his Majesty remembered a circumstance which Johnson himself had forgotten. His Majesty next expressed a desire to have the literary biography of the country ably executed, and proposed to the Doctor to undertake it; and with this wish, so graciously expressed, Johnson readily complied.—During this interview, the Doctor talked with profound respect, but still in his firm manner, with a sonorous voice, and never in that subdued tone which is common at the levee and drawing-room. Afterwards he observed to Mr. Barnard, the librarian, ‘Sir, they may talk of the king as they will, but he is the finest gentleman I have ever seen.’ And he also observed, at another time, to Mr. Layton, ‘Sir, his manners are those of as fine a gentleman as we may suppose Louis XIV. or Charles II. to have been.’”

Bishop Warburton, in his letters, gives the following curious, and at the same time *ex-parte* statement, relative to his reception at Court, at the present period of the reign of George III.—“I brought,” (said the Prelate) “as usual, a bad cold
“with me to town, and this being the first day I
“ventured out of doors, it was employed, as in
“duty bound, *at Court*, it being a levee day. A
“buffoon Lord in waiting was very busy marshal-
“ling the circle, and he said to me, without cere-
“mony, ‘*Move forward! You clog up the door-*
“*way!*’ I replied with as little ceremony, ‘*Did*
“*nobody clog up the King’s door-way more than I,*
“*there would be room for all honest men!*’ This
“brought the man to himself. When the King
“came up to me, he asked me why I had not

“ come up to town before. I said, I understood
“ there was no *business* going on in *the House* in
“ which I could be of *service* to his Majesty. He
“ replied, that he supposed the severe storm of
“ snow would have brought me up. I replied, I
“ was under cover of a warm roof.—You see,”
continues the learned Prelate, “ by all this, how
“ unfit I am for Courts.”

This extract is worth dissecting, from the peep it gives behind the curtain. Without cherishing any illiberal principles, a protestant might naturally expect that the duties of religion, or the concerns of *the church*, would, on the arrival of the learned Bishop in London, have occupied a share of his thoughts; but instead of attending divine service, his *first duty* leads him to *Court*—to a levee! When he arrives in the Drawing-room, a Lord in Waiting, whom he calls ‘*a Buffoon*,’ evidently aiming a blow at him as a time-server, accosts him in the rude manner he has stated. His reply is rather common-place and vulgar, than witty or dignified. As respects the manner in which the King accosted him, it is evident that the Prelate felt it as a rebuke for having been *tardy*; and his own words, alluding to the *business* before the House, not being of a nature wherein he could be of *service* to his Majesty the King, plainly indicates the allusions on both sides turned on a *political* hinge; and what is very remarkable, the truly religious character of the Monarch considered, there is not the smallest or most remote mention of religion or its duties!

CHAPTER XIX.

Moral retribution, illustrated.—Manners and principles of the American colonists.—Persecution of their forefathers.—Mr. QUINCY ADAMS; his respectful mention of George III.—Birth of CAROLINE LOUISA, the present QUEEN.—George III. visited by Christian VII. of Denmark.—Original Biography.—Early attempts by an envious Step-Mother against his life.—His morals and health, how impaired.—Royal frolics in Amsterdam.—Anecdote of Count Holckte.—Dissipated life of the Danish King in London.—Plebeian courtesy.—Generosity.—Extravagance.—A public embrace.—A commercial speculator.—Awkward dilemma.—Rise of STRUENSEE's greatness; his birth and character displayed.—Count Charles Schak Rentzau.—Christian VII. and the Princess Dowager of Wales.—Increasing influence of STRUENSEE.—Departure of the Danish King from England.—Strictures on the critical situation of his Queen; the source of her ruin explained.—Domestic life of George III. resumed.—Death of Charles Townsend, M. P.—Court beauties.—Original anecdote.—Political clouds.—Arbitrary rule.—Popular excesses.—Civil List in arrears.—Commencement of War in America.—Mr. Beckford; his opulence, magnificence, public spirit.—Increasing divisions at home; contempt and danger its results abroad.—The Bourbons of 1770 and 1820!

THERE is something so powerfully illustrative and convincing of *the hand divine* in making every human vice the instrument of its own specific and peculiar defeat and punishment, that, beyond any other kind of evidence, it evinces a superintending and controlling Providence, whom, in the beautiful language of St. Pierre, when he beholds a ty-

rant fixing a fetter round the ancle of the slave, rivets the other end of the chain round the neck of the despot! No state project was ever more radically vicious and unjust, than that of insisting upon taxing the inhabitants of the British North American Colonies, without permitting the persons most interested to have any voice in the Legislature by which their property was to be taxed, or even consulting them as to the limits and duration of taxation, or the least objectionable mode by which the quantity of treasure demanded by the parent state might have been levied!—If Divine Providence had not frustrated this gigantic act of injustice, not only would the Colonists have shewn themselves a worthless and a degenerated race, fitted for slavery, and unworthy of liberty, but their sons might, at no remote day, have been called across the Atlantic ocean to support, by their bayonets, a similar principle of misrule at home!*

Every nation and government in Europe, in the vicissitudes of their fortunes, and the nature of their peculiar punishment, evinces the certainty of a moral retribution; whilst, so truly brutal is the mental blindness and stupidity of many kings and rulers, that their conduct seems to justify the heathen maxim, “*Quem Deus vult perdere, prius dementat*,”† and to prove that a great moral change in the condition of mankind is de-

* A weak, administration, sinking beneath the double weight of popular execration and conscious guilt, basely endeavoured to throw off a part of the burden, by accusing their Sovereign of being the real author of the American war. The practice of the British Constitution does not permit the King to be his own Minister. If it were otherwise, then the anomalous maxim that “*the King can do no wrong*” must cease, and the Monarch become personally responsible.

† “*Those whom GOD consigns to PERDITION on account of THEIR CRIMES, he first renders foolish!*”—The dreadful punishments inflicted upon PHARAOH, affords a sublime illustration of this ancient aphorism.

creed by Omnipotence, and rapidly, and simultaneously, developing itself all over Europe.

It was not in France, in Spain, nor in Italy, where despotism and superstition, having combined their anti-social powers, held the fairest portions of Europe in a state of slavery and darkness, still more degrading and intolerable than the rude and open tyranny of the Turks, that the sacred flame burst forth. It was in a newly-peopled region, *in America*, where Providence permitted its ethereal fluid to paralyze the strong arm of oppression; and where a new order of things was about to commence, as grateful and as beneficial to an enslaved world, as the deliverance from Egyptian bondage was to the Jews in days of yore.

It is universally known that the persecutions against non-conformists, which the tyrant-kings of the Stuart race had set on foot, first peopled the shores of North America with exiled Britons, who nobly preferred all the ills attendant on that remote and dangerous remedy, to the sacrifice of their religious principles. There, those daring wanderers fixed their tents, and there they increased in number and in riches; and many of the old patriarchs lived to hear of the final banishment of that worthless race of Princes from the land of their forefathers, by whom they had been so cruelly persecuted.

In the year 1768 the whole number of British North American colonists was estimated at upwards of three millions! A sober, frugal, thinking, race of men, the great majority of whom were still deeply imbued with the bold republican spirit of their injured and persecuted ancestors: hence it was natural to suppose, they cherished very generally the same dislike to monarchy, aristocracy, and prelacy, which so peculiarly attached to their sturdy forefathers. The religious habits and prejudices of these colonists, rendered them formal, proud, reserved, and unsocial; their manners—

deeply affected by their local situations and their demi-savage life, were any thing rather than pleasing or graceful. In all their extraneous relations, political and commercial, with the parent state, a strong and overwhelming spirit of selfishness prevailed; and the revival of Tory doctrines, the presence of Tory statesmen at Court, were events on which the lynx-eyed colonists ruminated in gloomy silence, anticipating some attack, open or covert, upon their property, or their independence. And so rapidly was the first buzz of incipient danger spread throughout the North American colonies, that the people of England had scarcely caught a glimpse of the fatal project, before the whole mass of colonists were engaged in secret debates how best to meet and repel the first encroachments upon their rights and property. A people thus vigilant are rarely enslaved!

If that evil genius which ruled in secret the British Cabinet, had not spread on every side the strongest belief that its aim was to render the Crown absolute; and if Mr. Pitt, during the war of 1756, had proposed to the colonists their raising a certain sum of money for the defence of their coasts and frontiers, leaving to their local authorities the power of levying the proposed tax, and also conceding a superintending control over its expenditure, it is possible the measure, unpalatable as it would still have been, might have passed; but having been delayed till the popular writers in England had sounded an alarm that their liberties were in danger of utter subversion from the Tory spirit which prevailed at Court, it was evident to every impartial observer that the principle would be manfully resisted, not merely by petitions and remonstrances, but with the sword as well as the pen.

Those Tory ministers who urged George the Third to persevere in enforcing *his right* to tax the

American colonists, kept the Sovereign, as far as possible, in the dark, as to the true cause of the spirited resistance offered by the colonists to British taxation; thereby creating that feeling of strong dislike towards the American colonists to which, at a later period, they falsely imputed that disastrous war, and its bitter fruit.

It forms a singular feature in the birth of that great and rising republic, the United States, that its example should have awakened the love of liberty in France,—where it had remained in a torpid state for many centuries,—uprooting that blood-cemented throne, whose possessor had taught the Stuarts to despise and coerce the people, and afforded them an asylum when their folly and their crimes had driven them forth from their native land. And it is no less remarkable an instance of Divine retribution, that the unconstitutional attempt made upon the posterity of those persecuted colonists whom the Stuarts had driven into exile, should have laid the foundations of the first republic, founded wholly upon the representative system of government, that the world had ever yet seen; to whose rapidly increasing fame, power, and dominion, no limits can be assigned. These circumstances, viewed as the effect of Divine retribution, throw an additional lustre over the rising greatness of that maritime republic, without sullyng the purity of the late King's personal character.*

* The Editor, in 1815, had more than one interview with the Honourable Mr. QUINCY ADAMS, then resident minister in London, now Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the United States; who spoke in the most respectful terms of the personal character of George III. not casting the slightest reproach upon the venerable and afflicted Monarch, but imputing the political errors into which he had fallen to the want of public principle in his ministers, their utter unfitness to rule a free people, and the

The attention of a weak, distracted administration, was still occupied, in vain, and, too frequently, in wicked and *illegal*, attempts, to coerce public opinion; whereby they only increased the storm, and gave more and more importance to Mr. Wilkes. As to the mysterious Junius, he still sped his paper-shafts, as the cobbler of Messina is said to have discharged his leaden bullets, and at every stroke some obnoxious character fell. The peace of the metropolis was frequently disturbed by riots: the soldiers were called in to disperse the multitude in St. George's Fields, when a young man being shot by one of the military, it created such a hurricane of popular indignation as menaced the safety of the State, and portended a very general insurrection, if not a revolution.

It was impossible but the mind of the King must have been greatly distressed by these untoward events; the source and fountain of which, existed in the undue and secret influence of Lord Bute and the Princess Dowager, whose power over the King was so deep rooted, that the late Queen, much as she was known to dislike her mother-in-law, found it advisable to dissemble, and shew her every exterior mark of respect, whilst in her heart she was believed to cherish neither esteem nor good-will. Amongst the wildest rage of party dissensions, the King enjoyed domestic peace in its utmost perfection. The Queen, more and more afraid of agitating her husband, studied his inclinations with the deepest solicitude, and every thing was calm and tranquil in his household; where the royal couple lived in a manner so uniformly rational and respectable, that the domestic virtues of

gross deceptions which they had practised upon their royal master. "I was born a subject of George III." said the grave and learned American Ambassador, "and I might have lived and died so, but for the crimes and follies of his ministers."

the King and Queen had the most beneficial influence in neutralizing popular ill-will, and strengthening the Throne, which might have been overturned amidst the violent concussions of the day, if the private character of the King had been less amiable, and his morals less pure.

On the 17th of May, 1768, was born, at Brunswick, in Germany, CAROLINE LOUISA, daughter of the reigning Duke and Duchess of Brunswick, niece to George III. and Queen Consort to His present Majesty George IV. and mother of the beloved and lamented Princess, the late Princess Charlotte, the pride, the hope, the darling, of the nation!

Next to the birth of the present Queen, the most remarkable occurrence in the domestic annals of the house of Brunswick was the visit paid to George III. by his first cousin, and brother-in-law, Christian the Seventh, King of Denmark; to whom, from motives of state-policy, had been given in marriage the young and lovely Princess Caroline Matilda.

The person of the young King was remarkably well-proportioned, light, and compact, though considerably under the middle stature: his complexion was very fair; his features were regular; his eyes blue, and full of animation; his face a long oval: he had an high forehead, an aquiline nose, a handsome mouth, and a fine set of teeth. He was elegant, rather than magnificent, in his attire, extremely affable and condescending in his manners; which displayed, on state occasions, a high degree of polish. He was warm and irritable in his temper, but his anger seldom long endured; and where he felt conscious of having given offence, he often adopted such delicate and pleasing methods of atonement, as wholly obliterated all resentful feelings. He was immoderately addicted to sensual pleasures of every kind; to the society of frail females, and the most wild and dissipated young

courtiers: with all these lamentable vices, he was brave, generous, and sincere.

As so many errors have obtained respecting this monarch, the Editor will give his readers a brief sketch of his history. His father, Frederick the Fifth, was born 1720. On the 30th of November, 1743, he married Louisa, daughter of George II. of England, and Queen Caroline.* No couple ever lived happier than Frederick and Louisa: few monarchs ever so happy. Owing to the cause stated, (p. 248,) she perished untimely, (Dec. 1751,) and left one son (Christian VII.) and three daughters. Within a shorter time than is customary, but with the full concurrence of George II. the royal widower married another Princess of the house of Brunswick, of the Wolfenbuttle line, Juliana-Maria, who was born 1729; a woman not deficient in personal attractions, and eminently endowed, as to natural genius and liberal education. Within a year after her marriage, she presented her husband with a son, who was named Frederick, the present Crown Prince of Denmark, and heir to the shattered remnant of that declining monarchy. This child, from its birth, was feeble and misshapen. The step-mother, anxious to secure the Crown for her own offspring, was suspected and denounced by the attendants of the children of Queen Louisa, of harbouring the blackest designs against the Crown Prince, Christian. In one instance she was specifically accused of having mixed poison into the boy's food, when he was indisposed; on another, of having suborned an attendant named Brockdorph to let the young Prince fall into the sea from a yacht; which plot was executed, but the envied child was immediately rescued. Brockdorph was then dismissed from the establishment of the young

* Her Majesty, the Queen, was named after her grandmother, Queen Caroline, and her daughter, the Queen of Denmark.

Crown Prince, and was immediately taken into the service of the Queen.

One of these two attempts being communicated to the King, (Frederick V.) as he was enjoying the pleasures of the chase at a small lodge called Jagersprest, near the palace of Charlottenborg; petrified with horror, the King, in hurrying down stairs, fell and broke his leg. The fractured bone, added to the extreme irritation of mind, brought on a fever, and his life was considered in danger. On his recovery, feeling convinced of his wife's guilt, the indignant monarch never cohabited with her more. The unhappy King, in the flower of his days, gave himself up to that ruinous resource, excessive drinking; and his Prime Minister, Count Molckte, became the practical AUTOCRAT of Denmark, and acquired, by his absolute power, the appellation—*Koning*, i. e. *King Molckte*! As the Crown Prince Christian grew up, he displayed the most promising talents and amiable disposition. He was witty, playful, docile; yet, sometimes, resolute. Young as he was, he saw, with regret, the degraded state into which his royal father was fallen, and more than once he gave very severe rebukes to the ambitious minister, who basely encouraged a vice that gave him the absolute command of the king and kingdom. And there is every reason to believe that Christian the Seventh would have proved one of the best monarchs that ever sat on the throne of Denmark, but for the fell cruelty and diabolical artifices of Queen Juliana-Maria; by whose secret agents he was, in the earliest years of his youth, introduced into the society of the most dissipated young nobles, and of polluted females of the most seductive forms and profligate manners. Whilst his father was destroying his faculties by inebriety, the son, secretly impelled by his ambitious step-mother, was initiated in every emasculating vice; and ere nature had stamped him man,

his constitution was irreparably impaired, and his morals irrecoverably tainted. Sometimes *incog.* but oftener in his high character as Crown Prince, the giddy youth mixed in the revels of the nobles and the plebeians, tricked waiters at taverns, broke the heads of feeble old watchmen, and more than once, like Henry the Fifth of England, he is said to have been taken into custody for breaking the king's peace!

When this ruined youth had attained his *seventeenth* year, George III. caused it to be intimated to Count Molckte, that he wished his cousin, the Crown Prince, should marry his youngest sister. The Danish king was, in a manner, politically dead. The Queen, in hopes that the dissipated Crown Prince might die unmarried, opposed the match by every artifice in her power: all her intrigues, intended to prevent its accomplishment, failed; but just as every essential was agreed on, Frederick the Fifth expired, in 1766, in the forty-sixth year of his age, and the twenty-third of his reign. The Crown Prince Christian, being in the *eighteenth* year of his age, was proclaimed King of Denmark, Norway, &c. The stage was then knocked from under '*King Molckte*,' and a giddy young voluptuarist, assumed the reins of that absolute government.

Caroline-Matilda, the flower of the Guelphs, if not a faultless beauty, was, at the period of her marriage, a truly attractive and fascinating maid. The young King was a mere *boy*, as to age; his fair bride but just turned of *fifteen*! The boundless extravagance and dissipation of CHRISTIAN was well known at the British Court; as also the crafty and ambitious character, and iniquitous designs, of his envious step-mother. The latter had essayed, by every practicable artifice, to prevent the marriage taking place; and it was to have been expected, and ought to have been foreseen, that

her next undertaking would be to render the union unhappy, and, if possible, defeat its object.

The conduct of the young Queen, after her arrival in Denmark, was such as rendered her universally beloved; but she was soon doomed to experience the malevolent influence of her malicious step-mother, whose agents were too successful in leading her boyish husband from one scene of debauchery to another, to the further ruin of his health and destruction of his morals. The young bride, in the first bloom and freshness of youthful charms, found herself neglected by the giddy Monarch, slighted by his Court, and insulted by the Queen Dowager.

If that envious woman was grieved at the marriage of Christian the Seventh, she was maddened by the pregnancy of his lovely bride, and the birth of a male-child; events which seemed to throw her expectations at an immeasurable distance: but she calculated that the infant might not live; that the King, weary of his bride, might take up an invincible dislike against her; or, that the rapid effects of his vicious courses would prevent his becoming a father any more. Meantime, acting on the diabolical plan too successfully, and more recently, adopted towards another royal pair still more nearly connected with this country, she employed every artifice to sow dissension, and inspire them with reciprocal feelings of dislike and aversion. The gross misconduct of the King enabled her, by means of mercenary agents, to wound the delicacy of the youthful Queen, by detailing the shameful debaucheries into which he plunged; whilst her courtiers, marking the coolness which such recitals threw into the manners of the neglected bride, essayed to persuade the King that his Consort was too proud, too fastidious, and presumed too much on her high descent and powerful connections. Thus thickly were the seeds of ruin sown between

the devoted victims of a step-mother's wrath, when, soon after the safe delivery of the Queen, the King set out upon a tour, of which the gratification of sensual and vicious appetites was the first object; and to get out of the reach of his wife's reproaches or complaints, the second.

There could not be in nature a more perfect contrast in morals, manners, habits, and pursuits, than what was exhibited between George the Third and Christian the Seventh. It is consistent with the character of the former, to conclude that he *felt* severely the slights and affronts to which his sister was known to be subjected; but it would not accord with the dignified tenor of our late King's demeanour, to believe that he shewed the least marks of coolness, still less of personal disrespect, to the King of Denmark, his cousin and brother-in-law. Of all possible plans, this would have been the most injudicious,—the most injurious to his sister's happiness, and discreditable to his own character; and, though very generally reported, should be discarded as wholly unworthy of belief.

Whilst Christian the Seventh was in Amsterdam; in the disguise of a sailor's jacket, a round hat, and trowsers, he went to the *Rondeel*, a celebrated cyprian mart, where he supported his assumed character with great spirit; Count Holckte, grand chamberlain of his court, and his pilot in those erratic voyages, being his companion. Thence they bent their steps to the *Pyl*, a noted tavern, in the Pyl-steeg, near the Warmoes-sstraat, where a bevy of frail and mercenary beauties crowded round the strangers, attracted by their *gold ducats*, no less than their personal appearance. One, more bold than the rest, struck by the very fair complexion of the Danish king and his effeminate features, asserted, half in joke, half in earnest, that *a female* in disguise was come to witness their orgies; and before the embarrassed stranger was aware of her

intentions, the rude wanton, seizing the stranger by his waistcoat, was proceeding to still greater liberties, when, the buttons giving way, shewed a richly embroidered vest beneath, with a magnificent star of brilliants; at the same moment his flaxen locks fell about his shoulders. The ball-room was crowded with foreigners, and in an instant the unknown was recognized as Count de Travendahl, the King of Denmark! Abashed and confounded, the frightened cyprians withdrew,—all the company uncovered; and the young Monarch, throwing a handful of ducats towards the frail fair, and bowing gracefully to the company, hastily retired.

One of the royal yachts was despatched by order of George III. to Calais, to receive the young King; and a numerous train of royal carriages were sent to Dover, to convey the royal stranger, and his numerous suite, to London: but, such was his impatience to behold the famed metropolis of England, that he declined using his brother-in-law's coaches and servants, and travelled post! Christian VII. had no great veneration for the clergy, and was not a little alarmed by their preparations for his formal reception at Canterbury: finding he could not escape the cumbersome ceremony, he intimated, through his own chaplain, whose place, by the bye, was a sinecure, his unconquerable aversion to *long sermons* and *long speeches*!

The apartment in the Stable-Yard at St. James's, now occupied by the Duke of Clarence, and where the King of Prussia was lodged in 1814, was, in 1768, assigned as the metropolitan residence of the King of Denmark. Count Holckte, his Danish Majesty's chamberlain, preceded his giddy master, to see the accommodations allotted him. When, attended by one of the great officers of the household, he saw the mean exterior of the building, which, compared to the palace of Christianborg in Copenhagen, was but as a *hovel*—the astonished courtier

exclaimed, "By G—! this will never do! it is not fit to lodge a CHRISTIAN in." When he saw the interior, he was much better satisfied.

The young King brought with him from Denmark, many curious and valuable presents from his royal Consort, for her mother, and brothers and sisters, of whose society he did not seem particularly desirous. To a Prince so extremely wild and dissipated, the sober and rational society of George III. his Queen, and Family, appeared intolerably wearisome. After their first formalities were interchanged, the Danish King slipped away, as it were by stealth, from his *royalty*, and visited, in disguise, each extreme of London; from the most superb to the meanest cyprian-temples, not omitting, as it was affirmed by his attendants, the noisy revels of the Irish in St. Giles's, or the still more gross nocturnal orgies of our sailors in the purlieus of Wapping. Such was the disgraceful conduct of Christian the Seventh in the metropolis of his brother-in-law's dominions! His youthful bride, his child, his country, his estate, health, morals, character, all were forgotten. He launched into an ocean of dissipation, and threw behind him every consideration calculated to awaken remorse, or check his mad, destructive course. Not less than from eighteen to twenty, out of every twenty-four hours, this wild votary of pleasure devoted to the gratification of this leading passion. After having expended twelve or fourteen hours in paying or receiving visits of ceremony, the *unwearied* sensualist would then commence his nocturnal rambles. On the same night when he opened the magnificent fête given in honour of his presence at Sion-House, by the Duke of Northumberland, when the Queen of England was his partner, he cast off his gorgeous attire, and disguising his rank under a blue jacket, trowsers, and a round hat, bent his way to St. Giles's, and joined in the jocund

dance of rustic Irish festivity, with as much glee as though he had never moved in any higher circle. Sometimes he met with very rough adventures; once he received a blow, which he instantly returned; his courage was of the Hotspur kind; and a variety of occasions fully proved, that in case of affront, he would fight with any weapon, and any aggressor, setting no higher value upon his life than the most profligate and desperate of his nocturnal companions.

Yet, amidst this whirlwind of folly and degeneracy, the unfortunate young Monarch occasionally displayed splendid traits of sensibility and generosity. Sometimes, amongst the profuse scattering of his treasures, a part alighted on modest and deserving objects, although, in nineteen cases out twenty, the veriest wretches in society exclusively enjoyed the fruits of his profusion. In one of his city rambles, the King of Denmark saw a poor tradesman who had been arrested, being conducted to prison, followed by his weeping family. Touched by the scene of domestic misery, the young Monarch ordered Count Molckte to follow the party, pay the debt and costs, and give the tradesman five hundred dollars to begin the world anew; which orders were punctually obeyed, and a suffering family was thus suddenly rescued from the deepest affliction. His good nature was always conspicuous. Whenever he appeared as King of Denmark, he was generally followed by immense crowds; and he would not only order his coachman to drive slowly and cautiously, but shew himself to the crowd, and more especially to the fair sex, with the utmost politeness and patience. Occasionally he met with coarse compliments, hearing blunt English auditors exclaim, "*What a squinny thing it is! What a Jack-a-dandy! My God! can that be a king? Why, our George would make two or three such.*" All of which plebeian

elegancies he not only heard without anger, but often joined in the laugh they occasioned. It was however so much the fashion to admire a king, that where one person found fault, a hundred were thrown into raptures by the air divine of royalty, his beauty, his elegant make, his graceful demeanour, fascinating manners, and inexhaustible politeness and good nature. The King hired horses and carriages for his common use; his favourite English coachman was named BAKER.* One day as Baker was driving the King's coach up to his door at St. James's, a florid handsome looking girl, bursting through the line of attendants, caught the Danish Monarch in her arms, as he alighted from his carriage, and kissing him heartily, said, as she released him from her ardent embrace, "*Now kill me if you please; I have kissed the prettiest fellow in the world, and can die contented!*" Far from being offended, CHRISTIAN submitted with patience, shook the girl by the hand, into which he slipped a liberal present, and sprung lightly up stairs, laughing heartily at the adventure.

These extravagancies could not operate otherwise, in the mind of his sedate and prudent brother-in-law, and the Princess Dowager of Wales, than to fill their bosoms with deep inquietude respecting the fair Matilda and her future destiny.

The King, for his private disbursements, caused a very extensive, if not an unlimited credit, to be opened in his favour with a merchant in the city, under the name, "*Fredericksen*," i. e. the son of *Frederick*. His calls were so frequent, and for sums so large, that the merchant began to suspect that Mr. Fredericksen might be a courtier, and the money intended for the use of the Danish King. Impelled by an irresistible impulse of avarice and

* After the Danish king's departure, he commenced keeping hackney's-coaches, and lived in a stable-yard near Bond-street.

curiosity, the Merchant took an opportunity, when Mr. Fredericksen called for money, to address him thus:—

Merchant.—"Sir, are not these large sums of money taken up for the use of the King of Denmark? Tell me the truth upon your honour."

The King.—"Upon my honour they are taken up for the King of Denmark's use."

Merchant.—"I am told that Christian the Seventh is one of the most extravagant and thoughtless young fellows living, who cares no more for money than if it were raked out of the kennels. You make him, of course, pay very liberally. You understand me; Eh?"

The King.—"Upon my word you seem to comprehend such matters remarkably well. You have drawn a correct picture of the King's character."

Merchant.—"And pray, Sir, if I may ask without offence, what is the nature of *your* employment at Court?"

The King.—"You really ask very home questions! If I reply, I must in candour *say* that my chief employment consists in sometimes helping to dress the King, and oftener in looking out for amusements for his Majesty."

Merchant.—"Just the thing! You are so much the more likely to have influence. Perhaps, occasionally, you render him *certain* agreeable little services amongst the fair sex! Eh?"

The King.—"Rest assured no man has more influence on his conduct than I have, nor interest in amusing him agreeably."

Merchant.—"Then of course, Sir, you take care of number *one*, and make a handsome thing out of these large advances?"

The King.—"Upon my soul, Sir, I never gained any thing by any pecuniary transaction in all my life."

(At this avowal the Merchant's face lengthened,

as his hope of gain fell, and turning his little grey eyes obliquely at Mr. Fredericksen, he paused a few moments,—when he recommenced operations thus)—

Merchant.—“ I suppose, Sir, you are not accustomed to money transactions, and do not know how to make the most of large capitals ?”

The King.—“ Nothing whatever do I understand of these subjects, I assure you with all sincerity.”

Merchant.—“ How does the King dispose of these large sums ?”

The King.—“ Gives them away ; occasionally in notes or coin ; more frequently in rich presents, such as gold snuff-boxes set with brilliants, or other precious toys.”

Merchant.—“ Harkee, Sir ! would you not like, if you could, to make the most of your influence with the King ?”

The King.—“ Certainly.”

Merchant.—“ Then, Sir, if you will allow me to instruct you, I will teach you how to make fifty per cent. on the capital, which we will divide between us ! All that is requisite is to let me buy the snuff-boxes and jewels,” —

At that critical moment a page arrived from the Princess Dowager of Wales ; and seeing his Danish Majesty, he immediately accosted him with all the reverence due to his high rank, thereby plunging the astonished merchant into a situation as truly embarrassing as ever a poet feigned. All his faculties were suspended, as he stared at the King, and at the page, in stupid amazement. Whilst the Merchant was thus transfixed, his wife had been practising on Count Holckte, and her surprise was no less conspicuous. Smiling at her ludicrous distress, the Count told Mrs. ———, to rest assured Christian the Seventh would not remember what her husband had proposed to Mr. Fredericksen, and that no ill results needs be apprehended.—

Laughing heartily at the merchant instructing him to cheat himself, the King bade them good day, leaving the disappointed pair to balance their account of reciprocal mistakes and disappointments, in the best way they could.

It was a custom with this spoilt child of dissipation, to carry in his pockets diamond rings, brooches, and other costly bagatelles, which he distributed generally amongst meretricious women; he also carried with him, or his chief companion, Count Molckte, carried for him, a quantity of loose gold and silver coins, which he gave, or rather scattered abroad, as whim or caprice directed. By such acts of unbounded extravagance, notwithstanding that George III. supplied lodgings and a table for the royal Dane and all his suite, Christian the Seventh drew upon his court-banker, at Hamburg, for one hundred thousand dollars, or twenty-five thousand pounds sterling, per month. A drain of specie sufficiently large to be seriously felt in Copenhagen; where the absence of the King and Court caused a stagnation of trade, and gave rise to much discontent.

Amongst the King's suite, was the gentleman who soon became so celebrated by his sudden rise, and lamentable fall, Doctor Johan-Frederick Struensee.

This extraordinary character was the second son of the Reverend Doctor Adam Struensee, who had studied at the Universities of Halle and Jena. In 1730, the father belonged to Count Witgenstein's establishment. Frederick the Fifth of Denmark, promoted his fortune, and made him General Superintendent of the churches of the Duchies of Sleswick and Holstein; an ecclesiastical rank nearly equivalent with that of an English bishop.

Johan-Frederick, afterwards Count Struensee, was born at Halle on the 5th of August, 1737. He was educated at that University, and took his degree, with considerable eclat, as Doctor of Medi-

cine. He soon rendered himself conspicuous, by his genius, talents, by his keen pursuit of illicit pleasures, and his utter disbelief of the divine origin of Christianity.

To say that his want of religion was the cause of his very lax morals, might be going too far; but as the want of that barrier to his morals laid the impetuous youth more open to temptation, in so far his want of faith may be considered as a leading cause of his want of virtue. At the same time, it is requisite to state, that Struensee seriously declared he should have been a Christian, but for the presence of articles of faith which his mind could not comprehend, nor his conscience believe.

In his early amours, no libertine ever committed greater devastation in the domestic circles to which he gained admittance. He was not restrained by any ties of hospitality, of marriage, or of friendship; nor repelled by any thing less than the most determined resistance. He was a sensualist upon system: five feet ten inches high; of a robust make, short neck, a little in-kneed, fair complexion, blue eyes, yellowish hair, high forehead, a large aquiline nose; *a dandy* in dress; a courtier in manners and principles. He was not as celebrated for valour, as accomplishments; but stood accused of having refused challenges from the relatives of young ladies, whose reputation he had sullied, and more than once, even in Germany, he is said to have endured the castigation of a horsewhip with philosophical patience.

Count Charles-Schak Rantzau, then Governor of Gluckstadt, and the hereditary chief of the oldest and greatest noble family in Holstein,—a brave soldier,—a polished courtier,—and an universal lover,—took notice of young Struensee, and appointed him not only his family physician, but also as medical superintendant of the districts of Rantzau and Pinneberg. Following the flood-tide of fortune, the

ambitious sensualist settled at Altona.* The Count, his patron, placing great reliance upon his genius for intrigue, and wishing once more to work his way into power, he obtained of Christian VII. an appointment, as body physician for his protege; and the voluptuarist attended the King, in that capacity, on his fatal tour; for such it may well be termed, as it laid the foundation of all the ruin and disgrace which so quickly ensued.

The excesses in which Christian the Seventh had indulged in London, rendered frequent interviews with his *confidential* physician necessary, to repair, if possible, the waste of animal life. Whether Struensee did, or did not, exert his influence to wean the giddy youth from the destructive career in which he had embarked, is difficult to determine. Struensee was proud, aspiring, and ungrateful; he had solemnly pledged himself to promote Count Rantzau's interests; instead of which, his sole aim was to obtain a substantial influence for himself: and the same train of reasoning renders it dubious, whatever he might, at a subsequent period, pretend, whether so corrupted and supple a mind would risk losing the favour of the giddy young Monarch, by giving him honest, but unpalatable, advice. The probability rests on the other side. At all events, the power and influence of the dissolute minion, Count Holckte, received its first visible diminution in London, and from the subtle agency of Doctor Struensee, who was created by the King of Denmark a *Conferentje Raad*; i. e. a *Counsellor of State*.

Leading a life so utterly incompatible with his high rank as a Monarch, and his near connection

* When the King of Denmark, by whom this commercial city was founded, stood upon its site, and looked at Hamburg, he shook his head, and exclaimed *Al te na! Al te na!* i. e. Much too near! Much too near! which gave rise to its name.

with the Royal Family of England, it cannot be expected that George III. was not greatly grieved at his want of sense and decorum; and it may, without doing violence to his character, be supposed, that he took occasion to offer, delicately and with gentleness, such advice, and even remonstrance, as the occasion might appear to require. This is the more probable, as the Danish king, amongst his dissipated comrades, used to apply various epithets to his royal brother-in-law's regular, rational, domesticated habits. With his mother-in-law, the Princess Dowager, he was still less ceremonious. As she was amusing herself one day, with a lady of her court, pretending to tell fortunes by cards, the King, her son-in-law, said aloud, "*How do you designate my Majesty in your court-cards?*"—"Lady ——," said the Princess, (to whom the King had given a superb set of *diamonds*,) "calls Your Majesty, *King of Diamonds*." He next asked, by what suit they designated Count Holckte. "Oh, by a title far more flattering:—that rake, who is so formidable to jealous husbands and careful fathers, is styled *king of hearts*!" Nettled by her ironical allusions, which he fully understood, the rash and thoughtless young man next asked her under which of the four suits she classed the *Earl of Bute*! This repartee, alike severe and unexpected, caused a deep blush to overspread the neck and face of the Princess, who, highly offended, arose and withdrew.

Mr. Martin, of Stockholm, an artist of considerable merit, and celebrated as a painter of landscape, was on a professional visit at this time in London. He had no great difficulty in gaining access to the King, having recently arrived from Stockholm, and also having recently seen and conversed with his elder sister, the wife of the Crown Prince. The King, in a thoughtless moment, asked the Swede *if his sister appeared to be happy*.—"As

happy, Sir; as any young lady can be, who, having been married three years, *still remains a virgin.*" She was married to Gustavus, the eldest son of Adolf-Frederick, and of his Queen Louisa Ulrica, the most accomplished and profligate Prince of the age. The King of Denmark was offended at this indelicate reply; and the artist, on his return to Sweden, found that, dissipated as he was, Christian the Seventh had retained a strong sense of his rudeness, and even communicated it to his sister.

Having visited the principal cities and curiosities of England, the Danish king, on the 13th of October, 1768, took his final leave of George III. and his Family, and proceeded, with his intriguing courtiers, to Paris; where the rising influence of Struensee acquired daily strength, as the health of the debilitated and exhausted king hourly declined. The enemies of Struensee assert, that during the whole tour he transmitted to Queen Matilda regular reports, through the medium of Count Rantzau, exposing the King's vicious courses; but this is entirely at variance with Struensee's obvious interest to conciliate the Monarch, by whose favour he hoped to climb to the highest pinnacle of fortune. The Court of Versailles, then at the summit of its voluptuous refinement, gave the Northern king a reception highly flattering to his pride; and its princes initiated him into scenes of sensuality hitherto unknown. Stimulants and restoratives, gradually lost their power; and before the unhappy Prince set out on his return to his own kingdom, the ruin of his constitution was complete! When he met his neglected bride, he communicated to her a loathsome taint: to remove which, through the evil council of the Lady of General Göhler, in a fatal moment, the indignant and ill-advised Queen, consulted Struensee! From this period the work of her ruin proceeded with rapid strides. Struensee, the favourite of the King, the *confidant* of the

Queen, rose like a meteor; whilst the emasculated Monarch, imbecile in mind, imbecile in body, sunk into a demented state, not of insanity, nor of absolute idiocy. *Then* the artful, the libidinous Struensee, giving the reins at once to his ambition and his guilty passion, soared with astonishing velocity to a height of fortune so prodigious, that it served to render his sudden fall from so vast an elevation more awful, and more terrible.

Such was the secret history of that period of the Danish Court, which includes the space between the death of Frederick the Fifth, and the return of Christian the Seventh to Denmark, from his tour through Holland, England, France, and Germany.

An observant reader will find, by the preceding paragraphs, that Queen Matilda, however indiscreet, was no less unfortunate than guilty; and that, amidst so overwhelming a concatenation of circumstances, she must have been the most resolute and the most fortunate of women, had she escaped the abyss into which she fell. She was, at this period, but just turned *seventeen*,—surrounded by enemies on all sides; and her worst and most dangerous were the angry feelings excited by the gross and scandalous amours of the King; by the machination of the Queen Dowager, (Juliana-Maria,) and of the various leaders of conflicting factions. It appears, by subsequent publications, that the unhappy young lady freely communitated her situation, to her mother, and her family,—and of course, to her brother. The King, her husband, was, even at this period, unfit to hold the reins of the monarchy: hence, proper steps should have been adopted, either to have appointed the Queen reigning Sovereign with Christian, as William and Mary had reigned in England; or, if this had been thought too bold a measure, a council of regency might have been formed; which, but for the duplicity of Struensee towards Count Rantzau, the latter might

have effected, and the young Queen have escaped the ruin and misery into which, through the agency of heated and exasperated passions, and the effects of a long and complicated train of treacherous machinations, the unhappy Princess fell.

This elucidation of one of the most interesting parts of the domestic history of George III. will, by the generality of readers, be deemed more interesting than any other matter which could have been introduced: and the Editor feels the more pleasure in enriching this Memoir with these original sketches of secret history, since they are exclusively his own; and their authenticity has not only never been called in question, whilst very competent judges have pronounced the most decisive opinions in support of their veracity.

Quitting for a short interval, soon to be resumed, to disclose the fatal catastrophe of these intrigues in Denmark, the Editor once more resumes the private history of George III.

The King's domestic life was marked by the death of his second sister, the Princess Louisa, and by the birth of a Princess, Augusta-Sophia; which latter event took place on the 8th of Nov. 1768. The usual condolences and congratulations ensued; but from the extreme irritation of the public mind, and the soreness of the King's, it is to be feared there was far less amity in those public marks of homage, than in the first three years of his reign.

The King continued his steady patronage of men of science and eminent learning. Without ostentation, he assembled in his palaces a great variety of valuable MSS. or works of art; many fine paintings, and various curiosities. Amongst his purchases for the advancement of learning, was an ancient Hebrew MS. of that part of the Old Testament acknowledged as authentic by the Jews. The date of this interesting relic was not ascer-

tained; but it was said, four centuries since, to have belonged to a synagogue at Jerusalem. This interesting volume His Majesty sent to the Hebrew professor at Oxford, for the use of that University. At the same time, Sir William Chambers, the King's architect, was employed in erecting an Observatory at Richmond. Doctor Stephen Demainbray was the first astronomer appointed. The King spared no expense in providing instruments of the first magnitude, made by the most celebrated artists. The edifice contained a moveable dome, in which the magnificent collection of astronomical machinery was fitted up. Here was also a very select assemblage of scarce and curious subjects, illustrative of various branches of natural history. The Hartz forest, which forms a part of the dominions of Hanover, is known to all mineralogists as a region peculiarly rich in ores and spars: a splendid selection of the most rare and valuable specimens were assembled at this place; and also a complete apparatus to assist philosophical experiments, and promote useful knowledge. The encouragement the King bestowed on horticulture, agriculture, and navigation, was equally conspicuous. The Royal Academy, under the immediate and personal patronage of George III. dates its existence from this period; when the celebrated Joshua Reynolds had the honour of being appointed president, and knighted. All those were pursuits worthy of a monarch: and if the admirers of poetry and sculpture, wish George the Third had extended his patronage to works of genius and art, as efficiently as he did to learning and science, they cannot in justice deny that his patronage was judiciously applied, and that he was the most liberal king who had swayed the British sceptre since the Stuarts had ceased to reign.

The year 1768 was also rendered memorable by the death of the celebrated Charles Townshend, (of

whom a portrait is given in this memoir.) He was a gay and dissipated man; equally lax in his morals, as fascinating by his wit, humour, and elegance of manners. His political influence in the House of Commons gave him an ascendancy far above his titled brother. George III. is said to have expressed much concern on his death, and to have paid his memory the high compliment of asserting that he had lost in Charles Townshend one of the ablest and *best* men in his dominions!

It is supposed to have been through the political interest of this his younger brother, that Lord Townshend obtained from Ministers the splendid appointment of Vice-King of Ireland. As the death of Charles Townshend ensued before the official appointment had been made out, there were rumours that the situation would be reserved, and given to another, in order to strengthen Ministers; but the King prevented this act of political shuffling, and commanded that the original intention should be fulfilled. Lord Townshend continued in Ireland eight years, and he left so favourable an impression on the mind of the generous, hospitable, and high-spirited nation over which he had presided with delegated rule, that his memory was cherished, and the anniversary of his birth celebrated, long after he had returned to the bosom of the parent earth.

Mr. Craig, in his *Memoirs of the late Queen*, writes thus, respecting the great beauty of Lady Townshend, the wife of the nobleman just named:—"Lady Townshend also was not more admired for her beauty than for her virtues. This Lady, with her two lovely sisters, the Misses Montgomery, were familiarly called in the Court-circles, '*The Irish Graces*.' Many persons were surprised that Lord Townshend should venture, in his fifty-third year, to marry so young and beautiful a lady; but his judgment and penetration were fully

evinced in the correct and virtuous conduct of his wife. This Lady, and her sisters, gave occasion for the first display of the pictorial powers of Sir Joshua Reynolds, President of the Royal Academy. He painted the three sisters as employed in ornamenting a statue of Hymen with wreaths of flowers; and such was the effect of his production, many were inclined to doubt if any thing so lovely had ever been seen in the world; while those who had the opportunity of approaching the living originals, wondered that art could come so near in its representation of perfect nature."—(*Vide, p. 196-7.*)

Amongst the leading beauties of the British Court, who were in blossom about this period of the reign of George III. the most celebrated was the Duchess of Ancaster, who was sent by the King to attend his young bride on her way from Mecklenburg to his Court. This Lady, Mr. Craig affirms, "was so exceedingly beautiful, that the engravings of pictures from her, are now purchased by artists as models to study from. Her kindness of heart, and her love for the Queen, exposed her (according to Mr. Craig) to the attacks of the scurrilous writers of the day; who found, as a defect in her character, that she had *once* condescended to sit down to dinner with Madame Schwellenberg, the person who had nursed the Queen, and who, therefore, preserved a great share of her Majesty's regard and affection."—So far Mr. Craig. The Editor, in August 1815, was walking with the Earl of Dundonald, past Ancaster-House, when his Lordship spoke warmly in praise of this paragon of beauty. And as they passed along the adjoining street, the Earl pointed to a respectable private dwelling, and said, "There the Duchess's mother lived, in a style of unostentatious opulence. She was supported by the Duke, and one day in every week, whilst the Duchess was in town, she was allowed, if she pleased, to pass

at her mother's residence; but as the Duke had married below his rank, he would not permit his mother-in-law to visit at Ancaster-House, nor have any intercourse with his family."

Such was the old Earl's account of this celebrated beauty. It is scarcely probable that political writers should *abuse* the Duchess on account of having dined with the late Queen's German nurses; although, if her birth was not what is termed *noble*, it is possible the Duchess was placed in the company of Madame Schwellenberg by her Majesty's request, and then, indeed, the trivial affair would assume another aspect, and some angry partizan might accuse the Queen of having degraded the first of English Ladies, by making them the companions of her German menials.

The Duchess of Ancaster, Lady Arabella Sefton, and Lady Almeira Carpenter, are selected by Mr. Craig as the three most lovely women who shone in the British Court, in the first years of George the Third.

The year 1769 was distinguished by an embarkation of British troops, with the avowed intention to humble the proud tone of the colonists by their bayonets! It was in vain the country raised its voice against so sanguinary, unnatural, and dangerous a conflict. Fate seemed to have willed the deed, and all opposition was vain. Meantime dissension and discontent increased at home, and if candour requires the admission that the popular party merited reproach for occasional acts of licentiousness, it cannot be denied that the Ministers of the Crown made the most open and daring attacks on the rights of the *people*; such as were utterly subversive of those broad principles of national sovereignty to which the House of Brunswick was indebted for the Crown. The flatterers of monarchy are profuse in their praises of the *firmness* shewn by the King, when the surges of

popular indignation beat high, and when he was insulted in his palace by a furious mob which filled the courts of his palace, and whose shouts and execrations penetrated every recess, and filled the pale courtiers with dismay;* but they pass over the impolicy of that dangerous system of curbs, of checks, of secret influence, which had given such deep and general offence, and clouded the happiest dawn of a new reign, that had begun with such unbounded popularity, and unclouded serenity.

The public mind was further displeased by the King's avowal that the civil-list was half a million in arrears: the steady conduct and well-regulated economy of the Monarch, rendered it very unlikely the excess of expenditure had been occasioned by any personal indulgences in extra-expense, and it was generally believed that ministers had applied that sum to promote their own bad purposes. An application to Parliament to defray the amount from the public purse, aggravated the swelling tide of popular discontent, and operated injuriously towards the late King.

The year 1770 passed away much in the same manner as the preceeding; public discontent increasing, and with it the absurd determination of Ministers to adhere, at home and abroad, to their favourite system of coercion. The verdict obtained by Mr. Wilkes against Lord Halifax, gave universal satisfaction in every respect, except that £4000. was deemed an inadequate fine for so gross a violation of the rights of a free people. The awful *avenger*, Junius, shrouded in utter darkness, still

* A hearse was prepared on this occasion, embellished with the most offensive caricature representations. Dressed as an executioner, holding an axe in his hand, and his face covered with a mask, a young Viscount, descended from one of the oldest families in Ireland, is reported to have rode in front of the hearse!—The latter part of the story is incredible, from its atrocity no less than its folly.

aimed his terrific darts at those whom he marked as the victims of his wrath; nor could all the domestic virtues of the King shield his personal political conduct from the severest denunciations. To such an extent had this eloquent writer taken hold of the public mind, that the Coffee-houses were sure to be crowded whenever a new effusion appeared; and as the impatience of their frequenters was too great to await for the paper in rotation, there were persons selected, who read each new communication to successive crowds of auditors, in every part of the town. Under the pretence of putting down popular clamour, the most daring blows were aimed by Ministers at the liberty of the subject, none of which exceeded in atrocity the support lent to that corrupt tool who was opposed by Ministers to Mr. Wilkes, as a candidate to represent the county of Middlesex in Parliament.

In the month of March the first blood was shed, of the torrents which afterwards flowed in the war now bursting out between Great Britain and the indignant colonists. The crooked and unconstitutional politics of successive administrations having produced a complete schism between the Sovereign and the municipal corporation of London, their Lord Mayor, BECKFORD, made that memorable reply to George III. which is engraved under his marble statue in Guildhall. The hireling scribblers of administration exercised all their stock of wit to turn the patriot into ridicule, pretending that he was confused, embarrassed, and neither capable nor inclined to utter the words imputed to him: but these are the common artifices of such degraded writers. Mr. Beckford was a rich West India planter: he lived in a style of great magnificence. It is not very likely that a man of his high opulence, and independence of spirit, should feel *awed* by the presence of such burnished insects as flutter about

a Court, of whom, even Bishop Warburton called one a *Buffoon Lord*!

On the 22d of May, 1770, the King's family was again increased by the birth of a princess, Elizabeth, now Duchess of Hesse Homberg.—The prosecution instituted against WOODFALL, the printer of the Letters of JUNIUS, having failed, by his acquittal, popular indignation against the ministers was increased: and whilst the pillars of national fame and liberty were being thus undermined, the Bourbons of Spain, instigated, no doubt, by those of France, dispossessed Great Britain of the Falkland Islands. And to such a depth was the character of the Government fallen, that the Court of France is said to have conceived new hopes of being able to overthrow the Throne, and re-establish the heir to the Stuarts! A project which it has been asserted, was averted, by the meanest submissions to Spain! Perhaps these comments were founded on prejudice or falsehood, but certain it is that *domestic misrule* always encourages the projects of foreign enemies. At the present moment (July, 1820,) the same Bourbon family who acted thus in 1770, and who instigated the American colonists to take up arms against us, have been intriguing in South America to establish a branch of its detested tree; whilst its Throne, established by English bayonets and English gold, trembles beneath them, and promises a speedy extinction! If *such* a Cabinet as that of Paris *dares* to act thus towards Great Britain, its presumption must be fed by domestic discord; and what have we not to dread from the combined hostility, should such arise, of the United States and of Russia!

The Editor thus closes his Memoir of the FIRST EPOCH of the reign of George III. in which he has endeavoured to develop the secret springs of its most remarkable events, rather than enter into historical detail.

CHAPTER XX.

SECOND EPOCH.—1771 to 1781.

The King's agricultural pursuits, and their result.—Ruin of the village system.—Sudden growth of land monopoly.—Rise of the manufacturing system.—Corruption of national morals.—Early establishment for the Prince of Wales.—The King.—Captain James Cooke.—Doctor Samuel Johnson.—The Copenhagen tragedy.—Altered manners of Queen Matilda.—A singular dream.—State arrests.—Fall of the Queen.—Guilt and cowardice of Struensee.—Wise and just conduct of George III.—Death of the Queen of Denmark, and of the Princess Dowager of Wales.—Strictures on the American war.—Taxation.—Poverty.—Discontent.—Nautical discoveries promoted by George III.—Learning and science patronized.—American politics.—British coercion.—Pride, the parent of injustice.—Splendid reviews.—Exemplary domestic conduct of George III.—Political discussions.—Ungracious exercise of prerogative.—The Universities.—American war.—Perfidy of the Bourbons.—The King's politics examined.—Objectionable warfare.—The American war NATIONAL.—Capt. Cooke's last expedition.—Increase of the civil list.—Public mistrust.—Lord Erskine, first a sailor, then a soldier, lastly a lawyer.—Farmer George and his salesmen.—Noble cabbage growers.—Vicissitudes of war.—Dissensions in the Royal Navy.—The combined fleets in the channel.—Ministerial imbecility.—The King's courage.—Justice rendered to the Catholics.—Infamous character of the riots of 1780.—Ministerial supineness.—Marvellous tales.

IT was in the year 1771 that George the Third, fleeing as it were from the heavy cares of royalty, and the loud, increasing storm of popular indigna-

tion, which the measures of his ministers had no tendency to allay, commenced his extensive agricultural experimental-system; which certainly gave a new impulse to our husbandry, and led to very great improvements: at the same time, it set an example less beneficial to the nation, than gratifying to the nobility and gentry; many of whom commenced *market* farmers on a very extensive scale; and it rapidly led to that grasping system of land-monopoly and *large farms*, by which, and the increasing pressure of taxation, the proud and independent race of *English yeomen*, in the true acceptation of the word, has nearly become extinct, the moral beauty of rural life destroyed, and every accession of science, or of individual wealth, too dearly purchased by the rapid decline of village prosperity, and by the host of pale wretched paupers, whom these great changes gradually operated. For the public good which his liberal patronage of agriculture produced, the late Monarch is entitled to the thanks of posterity; the evils which ensued were the effect of a too general spirit of monopoly, which impelled agricultural capitalists to oppress the smaller classes of farmers,—to deprive, under the mask of *increasing* the products, the cottager of his pasture heath, wherein consisted his best resource against want,—fuel for his humble hearth, grass for his cow, his sheep, geese, or swine. Many common heaths, inclosed at this period, were never so productive, never so generally useful, as in their open state; and so far from more products being taken to market, they remain at this hour decorated indeed with all the skill of landscape-gardeners, but wholly unproductive, except of game, of covers for its protection, and of corn for the winter support of those *privileged* destroyers of the cottagers' patrimony.

With the decline and fall of the old system of small farms, and cottage immunities, our spirit of

manufacturing enterprise began to expand. Tempted by the hope of better fortune, the cottager forsook his infant haunts, where health, simplicity, and innocence, prevailed, and sought a new residence in dirty and crowded manufacturing towns; where, cooped up in narrow dwellings, enveloped with a foul atmosphere, and mixed with a herd of mechanics of the most vicious habits, not only was the health of the expatriated villagers destroyed, but their minds became rapidly and generally contaminated; their offspring, doomed, without a crime, to inevitable poverty and misery, soon lost the ruddy hue of rural life, the innocence of rural manners, and quickly merged into the polluted populace of those increasing marts where their changed fortune had placed their parents. The long reign of George III. saw the rise and fall of our manufacturing system; and the present deplorable state of superfluous swarms of mechanics, and the enormous pressure of poor's-taxes, evince but too fully, how ill exchanged was the frugal village-system which prevailed at the accession of George the Third, for all the splendid improvements which have rendered the island—a paradise for the rich,—a purgatory for the poor!

It is not the Editor's belief, nor does he wish to impress such upon any of his readers, that *all* the distresses which prevail have arisen from these causes; but no one, who is old enough to remember the happy and flourishing state of our cottagers in the first years of the late reign, and who has beheld the genaral poverty and wretchedness exhibited in their persons and dwellings towards its close, can with truth deny the justice of these remarks; nor, if he has a feeling heart, help deploring the fall of the cottage-system, and wishing for its speedy restoration. A number of great and good individuals, the proprietors of large tracts of land, have already set the example of restoring to

their cottagers, pasture for a cow, and a resource for fuel. As they have acted thus wise and humanely, they have invariably found that the poor's-taxes have diminished, and virtuous, domestic habits grown up, where, previously, nothing but vice, ignorance, and wretchedness, was seen. **THIS**, and this alone, is the true and direct path to the desired end. Let our great land-holders measure back their steps. The science that has obtained will not retrograde; the wants of an increasing population will be *diminished* in exact proportion as a greater number of hands are employed in agricultural labours: and it is a notorious fact, that a thousand acres of land, divided into ten farms, will employ three times as many labourers, and give support to *ten times* the number of master-farmers, than if monopolized by one capitalist. **MR. OWEN**, of Lanark, deserves all the applause he has received for his philanthropy and public spirit; but the Editor contends, our best way to put an end to the overwhelming torrent of pauperism, is to re-open the ancient springs of rustic prosperity, and measure back our way to the safe and liberal policy of '*live, and let live.*' The crowd of starving mechanics would then diminish and divide, flowing back to agricultural labours in so great a proportion, as to leave the remainder, who cannot take to the plough or the flail, a reasonable chance of earning their livelihood at their respective trades.

The late king of Sweden, Gustavus IV. was so fully convinced of the fundamental error in our system of inclosure, by which the poor have been gradually shut out from every resource, save their day wages, and what they could extort from the parish-officers, that whenever he gave permission to any capitalist to inclose a heath or pasture common, His Majesty wisely compelled the rich proprietor to set apart every tenth acre, for cottagers; to build decent cottages, and let them out at a rent

amounting to no more than a mere quit-rent, and this in perpetuity. This was the sound policy he pursued in Finland; and such was its happy result, that a province which used to draw its bread-corn from Sweden, in a few years became the chief granary of that kingdom! He also discouraged the application of fertile land to purposes of idle unproductive pomp. The best informed agriculturists of Sweden and the continent, whilst they admire the matchless beauty of British scenery, so far as depends upon tasteful arrangement and chaste embellishment, condemn its cruel waste of the most fertile soil. But their strictures upon the enormous waste of the best and most fertile of our fields and meadows, which are thus sacrificed to luxury, are no less severe; and they condemn, as cruel and inhuman, the man who can derive a gratification from that which tends to deprive of food the sinewy sons of toil. One of the Swedish agriculturists (Baron Rosenblad) calculated, that the WASTE GROUND of England and Wales, under which head he included *parks*, pleasure-grounds, lawns, and preserves for game, consumes as much soil as would amply maintain *a million of people!* And the same orator asserted, that sumpter horses, or horses kept for the purpose of pleasure only, consumes produce capable of supporting another million!

Whether or not these are exaggerated estimates, is not in the power of the Editor to determine; but they prove that, in the estimation of some of the most intelligent and liberal men in Europe, England is at once, as far as the comforts and morals of the poor are concerned, '*a garden and a grave.*'

As the late King was more practicably '*a farmer*' than a sovereign, and as agriculture claimed so great a share of his time and attention, and at a period when the rapidly progressive increase of pauperism and national demoralization appals the stoutest hearts, it may not be superfluous to state,

that in Upland and East Gothland, the labouring hinds and their families are paid in kind, as well as money; that is, they have a certain quantity of rye, barley, milk, (or cows,) and other provisions, allowed, a given quantity of land, and of money; so that their families are protected from suffering actual want, and kept from the parish. In the larger farms, more servant men and women are victualled in the houses, than in England. Those persons have a detached building, and a sort of female *Cook*, to prepare their food; each full-grown person has about two quarters of corn yearly, and a stipulated quantity of malt, hops, wool, beef, bacon, herrings, milk, vegetables, shoes, and boots: their wages vary—a thorough woman field-servant, has about thirty shillings yearly; a man, as high as ten or fifteen pounds, if he is a good husbandman; the common drudges or labourers, much less: they are almost universally educated, at least as far as reading and writing. Upon a comparison of the state of the labouring husbandmen in the best provinces of Sweden, it will be found that their situation is fully equal, if not superior, to the corresponding class of persons in England.—

Amongst the few domestic regulations of the late King, of which the wisdom might be questioned, perhaps that of forming, at so early an age as nine years, a separate establishment* for the Prince of Wales, was the most objectionable, as tending to remove him farther from the personal control and observations of his sedate and correct parents, and exposing a volatile and high-spirited boy to the

* The Reverend Doctor Dodd was warmly recommended by Lord Chesterfield as Chaplain to this juvenile establishment; but the King, not having any very high opinion of the patron, nor of the moral character of that popular clergyman, declined giving his assent; and, by possibility, the same feelings operated still more injuriously after that unhappy gentleman's fall.

evils of excessive indulgence, adulation, and flattery, in a greater degree than might otherwise have been the case. All the Royal children were handsome and well grown: the Prince of Wales and his brother Frederick, according to the testimony of John Lowe, had sometimes those sorts of differences which led to acts of *private war*; in which, according to the old veteran's account, (who was a daily spectator of their actions,) victory generally rested with the junior prince.—Amongst the weaknesses of the late Monarch, his personal antipathy to Wilkes must be remembered as one of the most serious, because it identified the Sovereign too much with his ministers, and gave, by the vast inequality of conditions, every advantage to Wilkes that could arise from public sympathy towards a man, considered by a large portion of the nation as being oppressed and persecuted. The young Prince, having been *displeased* by his Royal Father, could not, as the urchin thought, hit upon any better mode of retaliation, than by shouting in the King's hearing, *Wilkes, and No. 45, for ever!* The King laughed heartily at the device of the angry boy, who, perhaps, was more disappointed by that, than by any possible course; and if George III. had acted on the same policy by Wilkes himself, he might have avoided much uneasiness, and better maintained his popularity. The Earl of Holderness had been preceptor to the Heir-apparent; but from aversion to '*secret influence*' and the inculcating of improper maxims, that Peer resigned: Lord Bruce followed; for whose classical stores the young Prince was said to be an over match. Doctor Markham,—afterwards promoted to the northern archbishopric, (brother to the celebrated naval reformer, Admiral Markham,) had a more efficient share in the education of a prince, who, in every stage, from that of a child up to manhood, gave the most convincing proofs of great capacity, and

a fine taste. As far as the style of living was concerned, to which the King's children were limited, it was marked by its simplicity and regard to their health, being incomparably less luxurious than the food commonly allowed to their children by opulent tradesmen. The celebrated Cyril Jackson, who was many years Dean of Christ's church, Oxford, was also one of the Prince's preceptors. The late Queen, who continued the same wise system of household rule in which she commenced her career, gained more and more decidedly in the esteem of the British nation. On the 6th of June, 1771, a Prince, Ernest-Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, was born.

It was about this period that the late King is supposed to have sent a message to Dr. Samuel Johnson, which led to the increase of his pension to five hundred pounds a year; and what forms a more interesting event, the great circumnavigator Captain Cook returned from his first voyage round the world. The patronage extended by George III. to nautical skill and enterprise, will ever be held in high estimation by posterity; by his liberal encouragement, the sphere of human knowledge has been greatly extended, the fame of his empire enlarged; and, next to the decided part that he took in extending to all his subjects the benefits of education, his late Majesty's patronage of those great national undertakings, forms the most brilliant portions of his public or private annals.

The development already given of the character of Christian the Seventh, and of his minion, STRUENSEE, who had rapidly passed from the rank of a physician to that of a count, and who had attained, with his friend and comrade, Enevold Brandt, the full and absolute command of the King, and the resources of Denmark, has displayed all the imbecility of that unhappy young Monarch, and the source of the ruin and disgrace

which befell his beautiful bride. The limits assigned to this memoir preclude that more extended detail which those interesting subjects requires; all the Editor can do is, to state, that soon after '*the Doctor*' and Counsellor, Struensee had been introduced to the Queen, a visible alteration, and not at all to her advantage, was observed in the manners and dress of Matilda. Struensee ruled the kingdom, the King was but as a state prisoner in his palace. She grew very lusty, became masculine in her dress and recreations, and at the birth of her second child, the present Duchess of Augustenborg, the volcano was nearly ready to explode, which her artful and vigilant step-mother had so long been secretly preparing.

Count Struensee and the Queen were yet absent from their respective apartments; and the Count's valet was waiting their return in an anti-chamber, when, falling asleep, he dreamed that he was standing upon the steps of the Customhouse Quay at Copenhagen, when he saw the Queen, Count Struensee, Brandt, and most of their Court party, approach the shore in a boat, magnificently attired. In a moment he thought the boat went to pieces; amongst the persons who appeared to struggle for their life, was Queen Matilda, who exclaimed, "*Save me! save me! Struensee drags me down!*" Full of horror, the young valet thought he stretched forth his hand to save her from sinking, when Count Struensee rang for his valet. Suddenly he arose, the tears standing in his eyes, and his limbs yet trembling, and hastened to his master. Just as he entered the Count's room, he heard the Queen withdraw by a private stair-case which communicated with her suite of rooms. They had just returned from a grand masqued ball that the Queen had commanded, in the French theatre, and had enjoyed their last interview in this world. The Count, noticing the wild affright so very visible on

the young man's features, inquired the cause. The valet told his dream. Struensee appeared very grave,—but said nothing, whatever he thought: his humanity induced him to administer a few restorative drops to the valet, who, having undressed his master, withdrew to his own bed: there he had not lain more than an hour, when he was awoke by calls upon his name in a low tone; and heard attempts to open the outward door. Scarcely knowing what he did, he approached that door; those without heard him, and in the King's name, and on pain of instant death, he was commanded to open what they could not have broken without alarming the Queen, and then their plot would have ended in their own destruction. Terrified, he obeyed: a pistol was placed towards his head, a sword to his breast, and the valet was forced in silence to conduct Col. Köhler Branner to his unhappy master, who was suddenly awoke to all the horrors of his fate; and, dressed in his masquerade habit, was hurried away as a state prisoner.

The resolution and courage displayed by the Queen and Count Brandt, formed a striking contrast to the pusillanimity of Struensee. If the Queen could have reached the King, she might have crushed her foes; but she was overpowered, and conveyed away to Cronenborg. The issue of this great event was, that Count Struensee, whether from the effects of torture or of cowardice, confessed,—or he falsely impeached, the Queen, of an adulterous connection with him. By this cowardice he sealed her destruction, without in the least mitigating his own fate. Whether the Queen, was guilty or innocent, she was the victim of her husband's vices, and the malice of implacable enemies. Struensee and Brandt perished on the scaffold: the Queen was repudiated, deprived of her rank, and, as it is asserted in a foreign author's works, condemned to perpetual imprisonment.

The degradation of his darling sister could not be otherwise than grievously painful to the feelings of George III. He might, indeed, have avenged her fall upon Denmark, but the Danes were not her accusers; and truth demands the admission, that if there was not any doubt of the infamy of her enemies, there was also no room to believe that the young Queen had *not* transgressed her conjugal duty. Her brother did all that justice allowed: he stopped, by his remonstrances, the publication of the process called *a trial*, wherein numerous suborned witnesses had given false and exaggerated testimony, merely to overwhelm the Queen with irreparable disgrace; he demanded his unhappy sister from her persecutors; he sent a squadron to receive her, but not to convey her back to her native shores. He selected Zell as the place of her retirement. If the unhappy circumstances in which she was placed,—her youth, her offended pride, and the diabolical artifices of her rancorous enemy, the Queen Dowager Maria-Juliana, had led her in a moment of weakness to forget herself; the remainder of her life, passed in solitude at Zell, evinced the sincerity of her penitence, and the efficiency of her reformation. Had she lived, it is scarcely doubtful that George III. would have recalled her to his Court; and if her life had been prolonged till her son had attained the reins of government in Denmark, she would have been restored to her honour and her rank, as far as regal power could effect those purposes; but she died at Zell of a putrid fever, in the 25th year of her age, and the third of her honourable banishment.

The King's mother, the Princess Dowager of Wales, died, after a slow and lingering illness, on the 8th of February, 1772; the character of this Princess has been so fully developed in the preceding part of this memoir, that any further illustration would be superfluous.

This year was distinguished by the Royal marriage-act being passed; the evil effects of which were amply anticipated by the greatest men in both Houses of Parliament; and popular opinion *was decidedly* against its enactment. The present state of the succession to the Throne; the sacrifice made by this Monarch, in giving up his early and almost invincible attachment to Lady Sarah Lenox; and its supposed results—have already been fully explained: and it is conformable to the ordinary feelings of mankind, to suppose that the King would exact the same submission to that painful restriction, of which he had set the example. That awful aspect which the domestic affairs of Great Britain now wears, might, if space allowed, be traced up to this immoral act; which is imputable, not to the King, but to those doctrines which Lord Bute had so great a share in implanting in his mind. The marriages of two of his brothers, the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, gave the King great and lasting umbrage; the latter was, according to the statement of a well-known lady, who is said to be his *legitimate daughter*, privately married to her mother, a niece of Doctor Wilmot, prior to his public marriage with Colonel Luttrell's sister.*

The year 1773 commenced at home under the old and angry spirit towards the Ministers of the Crown, and the same struggle between prerogative and its opponent. The corruption of the House of Commons was now, more vehemently than ever, urged as the grand producing cause of the evils of the political system; and some of the best essays that ever were written, appeared about this period, in support of the popular cause. It was a

* Lord Holland has recently given notice of a motion for the repeal of this act; and the sooner the Royal Family are released from its trammels, the peace and honour of British ladies will become better secured against the facilities thus given to royal lovers in their amours.

great misfortune that George III. could not adopt a middle course of politics; he might then have easily put down those turbulent demagogues, if there were such, whose aim it was to stir up civil commotions in the state; might have extended the elective franchise to the great rising marts of commerce, and carried back the duration of parliament to the more constitutional period of three years. George III. has been applauded for his firmness in resisting the clamours of his people; but surely a temperate request for a redress of heavy grievances, cannot have merited that appellation; and if the American contest could have been prevented, which few are so hardy as to deny, it was alone to have been effected by that wholesome measure. There is little doubt but the late King was perfectly upright and just in his motives and intentions in resisting the voice of his people, and that he sincerely believed the welfare of the State, and the stability of the Throne, imperiously demanded the line of policy he adopted: this is all that candour can allow; whilst the agitated and distressed condition of his kingdoms at the present day, proclaims, in language intelligible to all the world, that the Monarch was imposed upon and deceived, and taught to fear his people, whilst his Throne was alone endangered by their calumniators, plunderers, and oppressors.

Quitting a subject that admits of different opinions; the naval expedition to explore the regions round the North-Pole, which commenced under the late King's auspices, afforded a splendid proof of his wisdom and liberality. Lord Mulgrave was the officer honoured with this important command. In June his Majesty visited his dock-yards, ships of war, magazines, and fortifications, at Portsmouth. On the 6th of July, after his Majesty's return, he visited the royal dock-yards at Woolwich, and inspected the artillery corps. The King ex-

tended his patronage to some scientific foreigners, particularly Mr. De Luc, who had the honour to exhibit various experiments with his new invented Barometer, before his Majesty. Doctor Beattie's Diary contains the minutes of a conversation with his Sovereign which reflects equal honour upon the Doctor and his mild and dignified host. The birth of the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, did not, as was hoped and expected, remove the prohibition to the mother's appearing at Court: the King's aunt, the Princess Amelia, and the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, were the sponsors.

The disputes with the colonists of the United States received a new character early in 1774, when tidings arrived of the violent proceedings,—the tarring and feathering of the King's officers, at Boston. It was in vain that any opposition was offered to the coercive system, either in Parliament or out; the bill passed by a great majority; and it is probable, however dangerous or unjust were the measures of Ministers, that the majority of the nation was with the Ministers. The pride of the nation was deeply wounded; and where a people feel very warmly, like an individual, they seldom judge uprightly. The principle on which Ministers acted, of insisting upon the right of taxation, without extending the privilege of representation, was radically unjust; but justice was lost sight of, till heavy losses and bitter dissappointments humbled the proud, and convinced the stubborn: then indeed the war became unpopular, but it was from its want of success, more than its defects as to motives, objects, or process. The great preponderance of British intellect was decidedly against the war at all periods, without regard to its fluctuations or its vicissitudes.

About this period, according to the testimony of eye and ear witnesses, George III. had acquired that *hurried* manner—and rapid utterance in discourse

—which rendered it extremely difficult for strangers to comprehend what he said. His well-regulated life was continued in the same rational and delightful round. The King and Queen were alike exemplary in the discharge of their moral duties, and if their children had failed in acting well their respective parts in life, they would not have had, as a mitigation of their dereliction, the contagion of bad examples, to plead. Agriculture and field sports, science and serious literature,—the duties of the sovereignty,—the superintendence of his children's progress in their respective studies, filled up his tranquil hours; whilst his temperance at table, his abstinence from all excesses, and his early hours, laid in that stock of health which enabled his frame to sustain the dreadful shocks of long and vehement fits of mental derangement, requiring the most powerful of medicines and severe restraint, and yet to pass his eightieth year before his constitution appeared to be completely broken up.

The political storm still raged between the Ministers of the Crown and the assertors of popular rights; and the breach between the King and the citizens of London remained as violent as ever. The disputes with the American colonists were rapidly coming to an open war. The leading characters of the popular party prepared, at a Common Hall, an address to the King, not perhaps as temperately worded as was desirable, stigmatizing the ensuing contest as an effort to establish despotism by military power, and arraigning the whole of the system pursued towards the colonists. This remonstrance and address appears to have so offended the King, that he determined not to receive it, as usual, sitting upon his Throne. A decision not at all conformable to the principles of the Revolution of 1688, and which, by removing the Throne, as it were, to a greater distance from the people,

gave a colouring to the popular cry, that the Crown aimed at subverting the Constitution, and to govern by arbitrary power alone. This is one of those few events in which no man who wishes well to freedom, can find any thing to commend. To their indelible disgrace, the two great national schools of *divinity* and *law*, sent up addresses praying the Sovereign "*to continue the war!*" This injudicious step probably arose from the pride of intolerance, and the rancour of priest-craft against a people who had said and written so many bitter things against corruption in Church and State; who had, at last, rather than submit to what they considered as a badge of slavery, drawn the sword, and thrown away the scabbard. By obtruding the King so conspicuously in the van of the coercive system, Ministers acted the part of false friends, if not of betrayers. Had the King remained ostensibly neutral, and left the disputes more entirely with his responsible advisers, the means of an amicable arrangement, had also been much greater; but where so many circumstances combined to impress the colonists with the belief that the Sovereign was their most inveterate enemy, its natural tendency was to exasperate every angry feeling, and impel them, at every risk, to cast off their connexion with Great Britain. Nor is it to be believed, those cautious and wary politicians acted as rashly in this great project, as that part of the English nation imagined who anticipated an easy and a cheap victory, and unconditional submission. No sooner did the aspect of affairs look towards a civil war, than the richest merchants of Holland commenced supplying the colonists with naval stores, arms, and ammunition. The FRANKLIN MSS. and other authorities prove, that long before the Bourbons of France took an open part, secret assurances had been given of efficient support. Thus did that perfidious family, in the hour of profound peace, form

a project for dismembering the British Empire; and if the unpopularity of the Government had, as the Bourbon hoped, led to an explosion at home, he would in all probability have endeavoured to have obtained military possession of the colonies, and, if possible, have established French despotism instead of British sway. Such was the *infamy* of the Bourbon policy in 1776, and it is the same at the present day, as their dirty intrigues in South America fully evince.

As far as the King was concerned, there certainly was no alternative at this period, but WAR, or to agree to surrender the fairest portion of his foreign dominions to subjects armed against his authority. A mode of conduct not more incompatible with the honour of the Crown, and the personal character of the Sovereign, than it would have been intolerably offensive to a high-spirited nation. If George III. had acted thus, he had for ever tarnished his honour, and probably lost his Crown into the bargain.

The mode of warfare adopted, was far more objectionable than the war itself: the first odious expedient was the hire, or rather the purchase, of German mercenaries; and the second, the employ of the red savages of the back-settlements, who ranked, by the law of nations, no higher than banditti, and whose indiscriminate slaughter of the aged, the infant, the teeming matron, and the blooming virgin, lost Great Britain much more in point of moral character, and retrograded her cause incomparatively more, than their tomahawks and scalping-knives terrified the insurgents.

The contest, now commenced in earnest against the American insurgents, attracting the attention of the nation from domestic squabbles, operated as a *relief* to Government, and actually gave a new impulse to the faded popularity of George III. The honour of the nation was attacked by the insur-

gents rejecting its authority, and a strong desire of ample vengeance prevailed; and if a majority of voices in its favour, renders any public measure NATIONAL, there is little doubt that at its commencement the AMERICAN,—however unjust its remote or proximate cause—was a NATIONAL WAR.

Obedient to the call of honour, and the secret wishes of his Sovereign, the great British circumnavigator, Captain Cook, quitted his tranquil retirement, and assumed the command of a new enterprise, for the discovery, if practicable, of a North-West passage, *i. e.* from the Northern to the Pacific Ocean. Every thing which science could devise, or unlimited funds command, was concentrated in aid of this important undertaking.

The King's domestic affairs continued nearly the same: some changes took place in the Prince of Wales's establishment, and the birth-day of the young heir-apparent was celebrated with greater pomp than heretofore. The Queen was again in a teeming condition; and on the 28th of April, 1776, gave birth to Mary, now Duchess of Gloucester.

In the spring of 1777, Parliament, after a serious opposition, granted the King an additional £100,000 per annum to the fixed amount of the civil-list. If such an accession could have been necessary for the King's honour or happiness, the public would not have murmured; but a strong jealousy obtained that it was intended for different purposes. The principal domestic events of the present year, as personally concerning George III. was the addition to his family of the Princess Sophia, who was born on the 8th of November, 1777.

The aspect of the contest with the insurgent colonists was such as derided the presumption of the Bobadils who had prated about their ability, with a single regiment of horse, to quell the saucy Americans.—Gloom, despondency, and discontent, pre-

vailed in 1778, and most men of any extended reflection looked to the past with sorrow, and to the future without hope. At this period the King brought forward propositions for the better providing for his numerous and fine young family, and although the total was larger than the late addition to the civil-list, it was cheerfully granted, nor, pressed as the nation felt itself, did it excite any murmurs of consequence: a plain proof that the nation never fails in its duty to the Crown and Foyal family, however severely it may condemn the public conduct of its Ministers, or dislike every appearance of indirect applications of public money. Lord Sandwich, who was first Lord of the Admiralty, was a character very generally and deservedly held in public contempt. His mal-administration proved the first great cause of bringing the present Lord Erskine into notice as an advocate: he had previously tried the navy and army; at the suggestion of the Countess of Buchan, he turned lawyer, and became eminently successful. During the present year, the King, aware what a near prospect there was of great and imminent danger of actual invasion, paid great attention to the state of the army and navy.* The King took up his residence principally at Windsor. His domestic life, his habits, and pursuits, still continued the same. He is said to have enjoyed the appellation "*Farmer George!*" He carried his farming speculations farther than became the dignity of a King; whose high rank was compromised by his bailiffs bargaining with butchers and cheesemongers, and striving to obtain the *highest possible prices*. The reported sale of *skimmed milk* was in every body's mouth, and the example of the Monarch has since operated so

* The Royal naval reviews have been commemorated by paintings and engravings, that reflect the highest honour upon the growth of the fine arts during his reign.

generally that the FIRST NOBLES of the realm are the chief purveyors of VENISON and GAME, forced-fruits, and vegetables, for the public markets!—How unlike the old splendour of English Nobility, when all the produce of their parks and private fields was consumed in their own castles, or distributed to their vassals! To such an extent is this *mean traffic* carried on, that the regular market-gardeners complain of those *noble* competitors, whose stewards *undersell* them at taverns and coffee-houses; whilst the labourers employed in their lord's vineyards are debarred, under pain of dismissal, to pick up a gooseberry, though fallen beneath the tree, to taste a cherry or a currant; and the finest vegetables are often left to rot, when the markets are glutted, and the poor working-gardeners are not allowed to carry one to their families. These are not inventions, nor embellished truths, but plain unvarnished facts; and if it were essential, the Editor could name more than one *degenerate* nobleman's seat, where these paltry gleanings swell their ample revenue. It is scarcely possible to select more striking instances of degeneracy in the privileged orders, at any period of British history.

That fertile source of national calamity and disgrace, the American war, led, as was foreseen and foretold, to an enormous waste of human blood, and British treasure; and though the British arms gained in the pitched battles, some splendid victories, yet the cautious genius of General Washington, and the firm spirit of the republicans, soon frittered away those advantages; and as fast as an army was disorganized in one part, a greater force was assembled in another to supply its place. A spirit of ministerial favouritism was carried on even in the Royal navy, which unavoidably created a party spirit and serious animosity; whilst the combined fleets of France and Spain rode, for a

short space, almost masters of the British Channel. At home and abroad the prospect was equally gloomy, and some panic-struck or factious persons clamoured for negociation, when peace could not have been obtained by the mere surrender of the former colonies, but would in all probability have led to other, and still more intolerable, demands. The administration, distracted and unpopular, was said to stand appalled at the storm which raged within and without, whilst the Monarch evinced a degree of fortitude highly becoming and commendable, in spurning at all thoughts of concession, when increased danger and indelible disgrace must have ensued. The original cause of the unhappy war, was lost sight of in its progress; and however greatly Ministers had been to blame, it was every man's duty to defend the honour and the independence of his country. It was during the first years of the American disputes that the splendid genius of the Honourable CHARLES JAMES FOX first burst upon the world; the young, the generous, and immoveable friend of Liberty and Truth. The year 1780 was marked by various fortunes, good and bad, by sea and land. Britain suffered immensely in her commerce, lost some of her colonies, gained splendid victories on the ocean; but the hope of vanquishing the insurgent colonists appeared as hopeless as ever. Meantime the enormous waste of blood and of wealth, and the rapidly increasing burden of taxes, not only caused very deep and general discontent, but the progress of want and wretchedness, resulting from the wide waste of a distant war, and a system of a marked improvidence, was denoted by the vast increase of paupers, of debtors, and many other symptoms of internal decay. Of the domestic events of this year, the riots in the metropolis formed the most conspicuous feature. A fanatical Scotch nobleman, nearly connected with the ducal family of Gordon,

whose intellects, if not absolutely deranged, were far from being in a state of mental health, put himself at the head of an immense body of Londoners, calling themselves "*The Protestant Association*." Their spirit, motive, object, and process, or at least of *their leaders*, was similar to the black and mischievous spirit of the ORANGE LODGES of more recent times. That vast body of misguided people assembled in St. George's Fields. There they were marshalled into companies; whence they proceeded, attended by a vast and disorderly rabble, shouting, "*No Popery! no Popery!*" and pouring their whole mass into Palace-yard, they surrounded the two Houses of Parliament, whom they evidently meant to overawe and intimidate! It is due to the character of the House of Commons to state, that the members present acted with moderation and firmness, evidently considering Lord George Gordon in the light his conduct and character merited, whose demeanour exhibited a strange compound of bigotry and turbulent folly.

Perhaps, scarcely any of the associated Protestants took part in the horrid scenes of depredation and lawless violence which the inflamed and ignorant *populace* instantly commenced. Those wretched, degraded, miserable beings, made the cry of "*No Popery*," the watch-word of pillage, and vigorously commenced an attack upon the chapels of the Catholics in Warwick-street, and near Lincoln's-Inn Fields. Every thing was demolished or stolen that the edifices contained; and the work of midnight sacrilege was heightened in all its horrors, by the blasphemous expressions uttered by the drunken and ferocious assertors of the rights of the church! Never was a popular insurrection known in England, which had arisen out of so atrocious a spirit, or which exhibited scenes more truly debasing to human nature. The King, from a spirit of justice, not of charity in its limited sense, beheld

with concern the degraded state wherein his Catholic subjects were held, and approved of relaxing those penal restraints which had been imposed in turbulent times, and from a vindictive, anti-christian spirit. That they had remained so long in full force, was a disgrace to the nation; and a still greater stain were those excesses which originated out of a brutal spirit of ignorance, pride, and cruelty. As if the spirit of a fiend had taken a lodgment in the bosom of a raving maniac, the vile and drunken rabble, the ensuing morning, assembled before the house of the patriotic member of parliament, Sir George Saville, to whom the high honour belonged of having proposed the relaxations which the King, to his immortal honour, had sanctioned. From one end of London to the other, nothing was heard but cries of distress, and the shouts of the devastators. Public or private property fell equally a prey to their destructive fury; and the horizon was so splendidly illuminated by the fires lighted up by those miscreants, that the body of fire is said to have been perceptible by night thirty miles on each side of the metropolis! If the rage was diabolical which inspired such acts, what reproach is severe enough for a *government* that allowed such excesses to proceed, almost unchecked, till chapels, prisons, dwellings, in every part of the town, lay reeking in ashes; and the banditti menaced the Bank and the Tower! This supineness in those who had been so ready to send out the military on very petty occasions, looked as if there were counsellors near the Crown who were anxious to allow a metropolitan, degraded populace, to go to all those scandalous extremes, merely to degrade the popular cause, to extinguish public spirit, to tolerate a more extended use of the military, and check the rising spirit of the nation, whose voice was becoming troublesome to Ministers by its loud demand of economy, re-

trenchment, and reform of the House of Commons. But if so diabolical a policy animated any Minister, the Sovereign was not contaminated by its pollution. He beheld the howling storm circling round his palace, without the least appearance of dismay, though the *No Popery* Calibans uttered yells of the foulest nature against the King, reproachfully calling him a "*Papist*," and demanding his head. It must, however, be owned, that a strong body of troops were collected in the parks. At length the course of the drunken and illiterate furies was checked by the military, after *four hundred and fifty-eight* persons had been killed, wounded, or expired in hospitals; whereas on the *first night* when the riots began, the *posse-comitatus* would have been found fully competent to have subdued the rioters, saved the metropolis from pillage and conflagration, and, what is of no less importance, have *prevented* that interference of the military in civil disputes, which has since been carried to an extent that would warrant the application of Mr. Burke's memorable declaration relative to the prerogative of the Crown, "*that it has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished.*"

The celebrated C. J. Fox took an active part in helping to suppress these infamous mobs; whilst it has been pretended by *alarmists*, that they were excited by the Duke of Richmond and other political *reformers*! The most mysterious allusions and assertions have been repeatedly and impudently made, that the various hordes were headed by foreign *Catholic* noblemen and generals, disguised in the sooty garments of chimney-sweeps? One of these authors has ventured, very recently, upon the following extraordinary tale:—"The idea of attacking the Bank appeared to have been adopted as a measure of final triumph; and had it been made *two* days before, would in all probability have been

successful, and the prosperity of the country thrown back half a century. This was *unquestionably* the object of *many agents of the French government, who were distributed in the mobs, and were active in directing its operations.* I have stated before, that a *foreigner* took the lead in the riots in Warwick-street; and I *know* from an eye-witness, that in the conflict before Newgate, a person in the dress of a *chimney-sweeper*, was particularly active; but being killed by some *accident*, his clothes were opened, “*and an embroidered dress found underneath, with a splendid diamond cross upon his breast.*”—These narrations border on the *incredible!*—It was admitted on all sides that the riots grew out of Lord Gordon’s intemperate conduct, without any kind of pre-concert. And can it be believed, in the midst of a fierce war, that the French government had time to send any agents over to aid in burning London; or that their spies were so eager to lose their lives as to join with such associates? Admitting, for the sake of good manners, that a luckless sweep was slain thus accoutred, all that it could indicate is, that he had plundered some rich dwelling, stolen the apparel, and put it on his own back for safety. Such stories are irrational, and disreputable to their propagators.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES, AND ANECDOTES,
ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SECOND EPOCH.

Original anecdote of George IV.—George III. and Ralph Robinson.—The stable boy.—Long speeches.—The late Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland.—A newly discovered Princess!—A mysterious tale.—George III. and a Primate!—Political strictures.—George III. and Doctor Beattie.—Doctor Franklin's estimate!—The King and the Optician.—George III. and the Jacobite.—The King and James Hutton.—The King and a young swine-herd.—The 'Power' maker!—A political merchant.—Benevolence.—The King and Garrick.—Singular demeanour of George III.—Extract from DELANY's Letters.

WHEN George IV. was a child, and afterwards as he advanced to the age of adolescence, he was remarkably timid: in the petty disputes which arose with his younger brother, he evinced a marked inferiority of spirit to his brother Frederick. Mr. CRAIG confirms the justice of these remarks, p. 170, where he states that "When Leicester-House was nearly finished for the reception of the Prince of Wales and his Bishop Brother, they went with their Governor one day to see what was doing, and were received with great attention by the workmen and by the populace. The Prince of Wales, highly excited in his feelings on the occasion, turned to his Governor, and said, '*I see now how foolish I was to be AFRAID of the PEOPLE. They will do any thing, I am sure, for those who can gain their affections.*'"—A useful memento this—for 1820!

"With the King's attachment to agricultural pursuits the public are well acquainted; but it is not perhaps so generally known, that his Majesty was the *Ralph Robinson*, from whose pen some very

sensible and well-informed letters appeared several years ago, in *Mr. Arthur Young's Annals of Agriculture*. Mr. Young himself has recorded this fact in a subsequent part of his work."—*Times*, 3d Feb. 1820.

“Grand entertainments in the character of Royal banquets were not frequent at Windsor; but when they were given, they were in a noble style, and the King was as anxious to enter into all the bustle of the preparations, as he was, afterwards, to promote the cheerfulness of the feast. After the completion of the partial improvements in the Castle, he gave what he good-humouredly called—a house-warming. Here he showed his real kindness of disposition, by the activity which he displayed in making ready for his guests—exploring kitchen, store-rooms, and every apartment, to see that all was going on right, and that proper cheer was provided, not merely for the higher orders, but even for the soldiers in attendance. The Royal gold plate, brought out on these occasions, is mostly old, but massive and costly. No host could receive all his visitors in a more friendly, familiar, courteous, and hospitable manner. He had an abundance of civil things to say to every body—observations *a-propos* to the men, and agreeable compliments to the ladies. The Royal family dined at a separate table, a little elevated. This etiquette of a *distinct table* was kept up all through the reign, though in some of the proudest Courts of Europe it is by no means strictly adhered to. *It was observed also when his Majesty visited any of his subjects:* as, at the Marquis of Salisbury's, at Hatfield; and Lord Romney's, at the Mote; where he reviewed respectively the Volunteers of Herts and Kent; and at Lord Harcourt's, at Nuneham; Lord Petre's, Thorndon; and on other less public occasions. His predecessors of the Brunswick line were more familiar on this point; and Court anecdotes men-

tion the fears entertained by a certain German lady, of the convivial effects of Sir Robert Walpole's punch on a Monarch's conversation. Her fear, by the way, was not altogether unreasonable, for Sir R. Walpole himself used to say, that he governed the King with good punch and bad Latin. The practice of the late King might have arisen partly from the King's accession to the Throne, and his marriage, at so early a period of life, before he had entered the labyrinth of sumptuous dinner parties and fascinating evening festivities among his nobility. He commenced the dignity of his habits early, and preserved it to the end."—*Times*, 9th February.

"Walking out early in the morning at Windsor, the King thus addressed a boy at the stable door:—"Well, boy, what do you do? what do they pay you?"—"I help in the stable, but I have nothing but victuals and clothes."—"Be content," said the patriot Monarch; "I have no more." The acute and philosophical good sense of this answer will remind our readers of two well-known lines of Pope in his essay on the Use of Riches:—

"What riches give us, let us then require:

"Meat, fire, and clothes? Q. What more? A. Meat, clothes, and fire."—*Times*.

Long Speeches.—"His present Majesty observed one day to a gentleman of high literary character, and of a distinguished political reputation, that oratory in this country was carried to a height far beyond its real use; and that the desire of excelling in this accomplishment, made many young men of genius neglect the more solid branches of knowledge. "I am sure," said his Majesty, "that the rage for public speaking, and the *extravagant length* to which some of our most popular orators carry their harangues in Parliament, is very detrimental to the national business; and I wish that in the end it may not prove injurious to the public

peace."—It is remarkable that the opinion of the King coincided exactly with that of Aristotle; who says, "Nothing so effectually contributes to the ruin of popular governments as the petulance of their orators."—(*Polit. lib. v.*)—*Percy Anecdotes, part I. p. 33.*

Characters of the Dukes of GLOUCESTER and CUMBERLAND, brothers of George III.

"There is perhaps nothing more striking, or unaccountable in human nature, than the differences that appear in maturity in the characters of brothers, born of the same parents, and seemingly educated in the same manner; and it would puzzle the most speculative and enterprising inquirer into human nature, to find any reasonable cause for the differences in principles and conduct between King George III. and the Dukes of GLOUCESTER and CUMBERLAND. The Duke of Gloucester had few accomplishments, and was weak in judgment: though a disposition to parsimony on some occasions made him cautious and slow in his decisions; yet he was not without some amiable qualities: he was serious, and inclined to be steady, like the King, and was constant in his attachments, though he never displayed those high and strict principles which are to be found in superior minds. The conduct of this Prince towards Lady Waldegrave excited various conjectures at the time in the public opinions and speculations. The best accounts thus state the circumstances: He had conceived a most violent and tender attachment for the Countess, and paid her very frequent visits, without making any declaration of his sentiments; but the active tongue of public report soon began to mention these visits with hints and insinuations, which coming to the ears of her Ladyship's friends, they remonstrated with her on the evident impropriety of such an intercourse. This awakened her to a sense of what was due to her dignity, at the same time that it rendered her doubly cautious, lest any stain, however undeservedly, should be cast upon her hitherto spotless reputation. In consequence of this feeling, she, and some of her nearest relations, spoke to the Duke on the subject of his visits, strongly intimating the necessity of declaring himself. If his Royal Highness was not already decided, this spirited manner of addressing him left the Prince *no option*. After a short pause, in which

his violent passion got the better of every other consideration, he *consented* to an union with the Lady, and afterwards lived with her, though privately, yet correctly, and in a manner deserving commendation.

“ It is deeply to be regretted, that the history of the *other* Prince, up to the same period, cannot be expressed in so few words, or concluded with the same degree of panegyric. His extreme ignorance, even in the most common parts of literature, notwithstanding a princely education, could be equalled only by the levity, to use no harsher term, of his habits and proceedings.

“ His seduction of Lady Grosvenor, and his cruelty afterwards in abandoning the unfortunate woman to the scorn of the world, displayed both his want of feeling and his deficiency of understanding: in the whole of this disgraceful transaction he seems to have been actuated by brutal passion, and a low cunning, unworthy the character of a Prince.

“ The Duke’s behaviour to another titled Lady was almost as reprehensible: he made her great promises, such as a pension on the Irish establishment, and other gratuities from the Government, which he never had the power either to procure or bestow; and when she had weakly risked every thing that should be dear to a woman, in order to satisfy his lawless inclination, he left her to shame and disgrace, *deriding her every where* for the dishonour she had been so foolish as to bring upon her family!

“ But to enumerate the intrigues of such a Prince, or indeed of any Prince, is beneath the dignity of this work. His marriage, I conceive, was one of his worst transactions: he inveigled a very respectable Nobleman’s daughter into a connexion that would have been disgraceful to any woman, at a time that he was carrying on the most profligate intercourse with others. It is true, he could give this lady a higher nominal rank than she enjoyed before, or than she could have obtained by any other means; but he could not give her that felicity which arises from an union of virtuous hearts; he could not give her that respectability which arises from being the wife of an honourable gentleman.”*

* DAUGHTER OF THE LATE DUKE OF CUMBERLAND!—In our Parliamentary Compendium we have mentioned the presentation of a petition from a Lady, claiming to be the legitimate daughter of Henry Frederick, the late Duke of Cumberland: the documents on which her pretensions are founded have found their way to the public prints, and certainly appear to be entitled to a

“A circumstance happened, in 1771, which serves to shew the great reliance which almost every one had on the known and never-failing kindness and benevolence of the King and Queen.—A woman,

judicial investigation; they consist, 1st, of certificates of the marriage by the Rev. Dr. Wilmot, who himself solemnized the marriage between his daughter, Miss Olive Wilmot, and the Royal Duke.—*Vide LIVERPOOL MERCURY, 21st July, 1820.*

2. Certificate of the birth of “Olive, the only child of the above parties,” on the 3d April, 1772, signed by Dr. Wilmot, R. Wilmot, and the Earl of Warwick.

3. A declaration, signed by the Earl of Warwick, declaring Mrs. Olivia Serres to be the daughter of the late Duke of Cumberland, and vouching that the marriage of the Duke of Cumberland, and Olive Wilmot, was solemnized in his Lordship’s presence, by banns.

4. The following declaration of the cause of secrecy—“I consider that it is proper that I should declare that a sacred obligation prevented the late Dr. James Wilmot and myself, from disclosing Mrs. Olivia Wilmot’s Serres’ birth, during the King’s life.

“*Green-street, April 2, 1816.*

“WARWICK.”

5. A solemn promise of protection to Olivia Serres, by the appellation of his *cousin*, made by the late Duke of Kent, and signed June 3, 1815, by his Royal Highness and the Earl of Warwick.

6. Various other documents, signed by the Earl of Chatham and others: one, declaring as follows—

“*Memorandum.*—That the Duke of Cumberland having subjected himself to the effect of the laws against B——y, we have agreed to let his daughter Olivia be the sacrifice, in order that the conduct of her Royal Parent may never meet public reprehension. We hereby promise *our joint protection* to the said Olive, and that we will never, during the life of her Royal Father, OR THE KING, betray the secret of the Duke of *Cumberland’s double union.*

“CHATHAM.”

(Other names torn off.)

7. A note of the late Duke of Kent, signed on the 1st of last December, as follows:—

“At my return from Devonshire, I solemnly promise to acquaint the Regent with the *Birth of Mrs. Olivia Serres.*

“EDWARD.”

8. A note, addressed by the Earl of Warwick to his Lady, in his last illness, recommending Mrs. Olivia Serres to the attention and regard of his family.—There are also papers with his late

decently dressed, came to the Queen's-House with a basket, and passed the porter, inquiring for one of the attendants. She went into one of the offices where she left the basket, and then went off through the avenues, which are somewhat intricate. A boy belonging to her Majesty's household saw the woman lay the basket down, and, being curious, looked into it; when, under some green leaves, he found *a fine male child about two months old!* The boy being much surprised, screamed very loudly, which alarmed several persons, and at length reached the ears of the King and Queen, who ordered the child to be brought to them; and, after viewing it for some time with feelings of *great interest*, his Majesty ordered that it should be sent to be nursed by some careful person, and should be named GEORGE. No one could tell which way the woman got out; and though a memorandum was found with the infant, its contents were only known to the Royal Pair, and were *never afterwards divulged to another.*"

If this is not a fiction, there are many reasons for

Majesty's sign-manual, and other family documents, among which is the following:—

"George R.—Whereas it is our Royal command, that the birth of Olive, the Duke of Cumberland's daughter, is not to be made known to the nation during our reign: but from a sense of religious duty, we will that she be acknowledged by the Royal Family after our death, should she survive ourselves, in return for confidential services rendered ourselves by Dr. Wilmot in the year 1739.—Dated Kew Palace, May 2, 1773.

"Witness, CHATHAM."

The Editor has already expressed his opinion that Mrs. OLIVIA WILMOT SERRES had a better chance of proving she was a legitimate child to a Royal Duke, than a niece to the author of the epistles signed JUNIUS.—This lady, separated from her husband, recently lived in *Cumberland-Place*, New-Road. She is uncommonly like George IV. in voice and features; her daughter, LAVINIA, is a fine girl, said to be very amiable in disposition, and, like her high-spirited mother, sufficiently well educated not to disgrace the British Court, should their claims be legalized.

supposing that the mother of the child did not place it where it was found without feeling perfectly *assured* the deserted infant would be kindly received and taken care of.

“ His Majesty’s extreme regard for public and private decorum was exemplified at this period, by a letter *handed about in MS.** in August, (1772,) and said to have been addressed to a high ecclesiastical character. It was to the following purport:—

“ MY GOOD LORD P——E,

“ I could not deny giving you the notification of the grief and concern with which my breast was affected at receiving authentic information, that *routs* have made their way into your palace. At the same time, I must signify to you my sentiments on this subject, which holds these levities and vain dissipations as utterly inexpedient, if not unlawful, to pass in a residence for many centuries devoted to divine studies, religious retirement, and the extensive exercise of charity and benevolence; I add, in a place where so many of your predecessors have led their lives in such sanctity, as has thrown lustre upon the pure religion they professed and adorned.

“ From the dissatisfaction with which you must perceive I behold these improprieties, not to speak in harsher terms, and still more pious principles, I trust *you will suppress them immediately, so that I may not have occasion to shew any further marks of my displeasure*, or to interpose in a different manner. May God take your Grace into his Almighty protection.

“ I remain, my Lord P——e,

“ Your gracious friend,

“ G. R.”

George III. Court and Family, vol. i. p. 357.

* If any such admonition ever was given by George III. to a *Primate*, it is scarcely credible it was couched in terms so harsh as those conveyed in this epistle. The world was much scandalized at *Sunday routs* and *card-parties* about this period, and more than one Prelate were pointed at.—As the letter stands, it is not creditable to the King’s character: if it is not a fabrication, it has probably been changed and altered in the transcribing. *And how came it in circulation?* Not from the King, assuredly; and the Archbishop would have been the last person to reveal its humiliating tendency!—*Editor.*

“ The following extracts are taken from the diary and letters of Dr. Beattie, published in Forbes’s Life of that popular writer; and show, in a striking manner, the acuteness, good sense, and good-nature, of the late King:—

“ Tuesday, the 24th of August, 1773, set out for Dr. Majendie’s, at Kew-green. The Doctor told me that he had not seen the King yesterday, but had left a note in writing to intimate that I was at his house to-day; and that one of the King’s pages had come to him this morning to say, ‘ that his Majesty would see me a little after twelve.’

“ At twelve, the Doctor and I went to the King’s house, at Kew. We had been only a few minutes in the hall, when the King and Queen came in from an airing; and as they passed through the hall, the King called to me by name, and asked how long it was since I came from town. I answered about an hour. ‘ I shall see you,’ says he, ‘ in a little.’ The Doctor and I waited a considerable time (for the King was busy,) and then we were called into a large room, furnished as a library, where the King was walking about, and the Queen sitting in a chair. We were received in the most gracious manner possible by both their Majesties. I had the honour of a conversation with them (no body else being present but Dr. Majendie) for upwards of an hour, on a great variety of topics, in which both the King and Queen joined, with a degree of cheerfulness, affability, and ease, that was to me surprising, and soon dissipated the embarrassment which I felt at the beginning of the conference. They both complimented me, in the highest terms, on my ‘ Essay,’ which they said, was a book which they always kept by them; and the King said he had one copy of it at Kew, and another in town, and immediately went and took it down from a shelf. I found it was the second edition. ‘ I never stole a book but one,’ said his Majesty, ‘ and that was your’s (speaking to me); I stole it from the Queen, to give it to Lord Hertford to read.’ He had heard that the sale of ‘ Hume’s Essays’ had failed since my book was published; and I told him what Mr. Strahan had told me in regard to that matter. He had even heard of my being in Edinburgh last summer, and how Mr. Hume was offended on the score of my book. He asked many questions about the second part of the ‘ Essay,’ and when it would be ready for the press. I gave him, in a short speech, an account of the plan of it; and said, my health was so precarious, I could not tell when it might be ready, as I



W. M. Dalrymple del.

T. Dixon sc.

VIEW OF THE OLD PALACE AT KEW.

in which Queen Charlotte died; and part of the castellated Palace begun by the King.

had many books to consult before I could finish it ; but that if my health was good, I thought I might bring it to a conclusion in two or three years. He asked, how long I had been in composing my ' Essay ;' praised the caution with which it was written ; and said he did not wonder that it had employed me five or six years. He asked me about my poems. I said there was only one poem of my own, on which I set any value, (meaning the ' Minstrel,') and that it was first published about the same time with the ' Essay.' My other poems, I said, were incorrect, being but juvenile pieces, and of little consequence, even in my own opinion. We had much conversation on moral subjects ; from which both their Majesties let it appear, that they were warm friends to Christianity ; and so little inclined to infidelity, that they could hardly believe that any thinking man could really be an Atheist, unless he could bring himself to believe that he made himself—a thought which pleased the King exceedingly, and he repeated it several times to the Queen. He asked whether any thing had been written against me. I spoke of the late pamphlet, of which I gave an account, telling him, that I never had met with any man that had read it, except one Quaker. This brought on some discourse about the Quakers, whose moderation and mild behaviour the King and Queen commended. I was asked many questions about the Scots universities, the revenues of the Scots clergy, their mode of praying and preaching ; the medical college of Edinburgh, Dr. Gregory (of whom I gave a particular character,) and Dr. Cullen ; the length of our vacation at Aberdeen, and the closeness of our attendance during the winter ; the number of students that attend my lectures ; my mode of lecturing, whether from notes, or completely written lectures ; about Mr. Hume, and Dr. Robertson, and Lord Kinnoull, and the Archbishop of York, &c. His Majesty asked what I thought of my new acquaintance, Lord Dartmouth ? I said, there was something in his air and manner which I thought not only agreeable, but enchanting, and that he seemed to me to be one of the best of men—a sentiment in which both their Majesties heartily joined. ' They say that Lord Dartmouth is an enthusiast,' said the King ; ' but surely he says nothing on the subject of religion, but what every Christian may, and ought to say.' He asked, whether I did not think the English language on the decline at present ? I answered in the affirmative : and the King agreed, and named the ' Spectator' as one of the best standards of the language. When I told him that the Scots clergy sometimes prayed a quarter, or

even half an hour, at a time, he asked whether that did not lead them into repetitions? I said it often did. 'That,' said he, 'I don't like in prayers; and, excellent as our liturgy is, I think it somewhat faulty in that respect.' 'Your Majesty knows,' said I, 'that three services are joined in one, in the ordinary church service, which is one cause of those repetitions.' 'True,' he replied; 'and that circumstance also makes the service too long.' From this he took occasion to speak of the composition of the church-liturgy; on which he very justly bestowed the highest commendation. 'Observe,' his Majesty said, 'how flat those occasional prayers are, that are now composed, in comparison with the old ones.' When I mentioned the smallness of the church-livings in Scotland, he said, 'he wondered how men of liberal education would choose to become clergymen there;' and asked, 'whether in the remote parts of the country, the clergy, in general, were not very ignorant?' I answered, 'No, for that education was very cheap in Scotland, and that the clergy, in general, were men of good sense and competent learning.' He asked, whether we had any good preachers at Aberdeen? I said, yes, and named Campbell and Gerard, with whose names, however, I did not find that he was acquainted. Dr. Majendie mentioned Dr. Oswald's 'Appeal,' with commendation; I praised it too; and the Queen took down the name, with a view to send for it. I was asked, whether I knew Dr. Oswald? I answered, I did not; and said, that my book was published before I read his; that Dr. Oswald was well known to Lord Kinnoull, who had often proposed to make us acquainted. We discussed a great many other topics; for the conversation, as before observed, lasted for upwards of an hour, without any intermission. The Queen bore a large share in it. Both the King and her Majesty showed a great deal of good sense, acuteness, and knowledge, as well as of good-nature and affability. At last, the King took out his watch, (for it was now almost three o'clock, his hour of dinner,) which Dr. Majendie and I took as a signal to withdraw. We accordingly bowed to their Majesties, and I addressed the King in these words—'I hope, Sir, your Majesty will pardon me, if I take this opportunity to return you my humble and most grateful acknowledgments for the honour you have been pleased to confer upon me.' He immediately answered, 'I think I could do no less for a man, who has done so much service to the cause of Christianity. I shall always be glad of an opportunity to show the good opinion I have of you.' The Queen sat

all the while, and the King stood, sometimes walking about a little. Her Majesty speaks the English language with surprising elegance, and little or nothing of a foreign accent. There is something wonderfully captivating in her manner, so that if she were only of the rank of a private gentlewoman, one could not help taking notice of her, as one of the most agreeable women in the world. Her face is much more pleasing than any of her pictures; and in the expression of her eyes, and in her smile, there is something peculiarly engaging. When the Doctor and I came out, 'Pray,' said I, "how did I behave? Tell me honestly, for I am not accustomed to conversations of this kind." 'Why, perfectly well,' answered he, 'and just as you ought to do.' 'Are you sure of that?' said I. 'As sure,' he replied, 'as of my own existence: and you may be assured of it too, when I tell you, that if there had been any thing in your manner or conversation which was not perfectly agreeable, your conference would have been at an end in eight or ten minutes at most.' The Doctor afterwards told me, that it was a most uncommon thing for a private man, and a commoner, to be honoured with so long an audience. I dined with Dr. and Mrs. Majendie, and their family, and returned to town in the evening, very much pleased with the occurrences of the day."—*MS. Diary, 24th August, 1773.*

DR. BEATTIE TO MISS VALENTINE.

"London, 20th July, 1787.

"I am just returned from Windsor, where I past three days. I went thither, partly to see some friends, but chiefly that I might pay my respects to the King and Queen. They both received me in the most gracious manner. I saw the King first on the Terrace, where he knew me at first sight, and did me the honour to converse with me a considerable time. Next morning I saw him again at prayers in his chapel, where he was pleased to introduce me to the Queen, who inquired very kindly after my health; observed that many years had passed since she saw me last; regretted the bad weather which I had met with at Windsor, (for it rained incessantly,) which, said she, has made your friends see less of you than they wished; and, after some other conversation, her Majesty and the Princess Elizabeth, who attended her, made a slight courtesy, and stepped into the carriage, that waited for them at the chapel door. The King remained with us

for some time longer, and talked of various matters, particularly the union of the colleges. He ask whether I was for or against it. I told him I was a friend to the union. 'But Lord Kinnoull,' said he, 'is violent against it:' (this, by the bye, I did not know before.) The King spoke jocularly of my having become fat: 'I remember the time,' said he, 'when you were as lean as Dr. **** there,' pointing to a gentleman who was standing by. 'You look very well,' said his Majesty to me, 'and I am convinced you are well, if you would only think so: do, Dr. Heberden,' said the King, 'convince Dr. Beattie that he is in perfect health.' (Dr. Heberden was also standing by)."

"The King was one day passing in his carriage through a place near one of the Royal palaces, when the rabble was gathered together to interrupt the worship of the Dissenters: his Majesty stopped to know the cause of the hubbub; and being answered, it was only some affair between the town's people and the Methodists, he replied, loud enough to be heard by many, "The Methodists are a quiet good kind of people, and will disturb nobody: and if I can learn that any persons in my employ disturb them, they shall be immediately dismissed." The King's *most gracious speech* was speedily recapitulated through the whole town; and persecution has not dared to lift its hand there since that period."—(*Cobbin's French Preacher*, 8vo. p. 129.)

"The republican philosopher, Dr. Franklin, in 1774, treating of the prospect of George the Third's putting down the attempt to establish by the sword the independence of the insurgent provinces, wrote thus to a friend:—"Britain, at the expense of three millions, has killed *a hundred and fifty Yankees* this campaign, which is *twenty thousand pounds* a head; and at Bunker's-hill she gained a mile of ground, half of which she lost again, by our taking post at Ploughed-hill. During the same time 60,000 children have been born in America: from

these data may be calculated the time and expense necessary to kill us all, and conquer the whole territory."—(*George III. Court, &c.* p. 378.)

Treating of the frugal manner in which the King's children were reared, the Editor of the above work states, that "In a recent obituary, noticing the death of Mr. *Gaskoin*, a Lincolnshire farmer, we find it stated, that it was from his wife, when on a visit to the Queen many years ago, that the *Gaskoin caps* received their name. She was also employed, whilst on this visit, in making for the King *rye bread*, which homely fare was so much approved of by his Majesty, that the old Lady, during her life, made it a rule of sending his Majesty a treat of this sort annually, and the practice was continued by Mrs. G.'s daughter."

The late celebrated mathematical instrument-maker, Mr. *Ramsden*, was frequently deficient in punctuality, and would delay for months, nay for years,* the delivery of instruments bespoke from him. His Majesty had more than once ordered an instrument, which he *made* Ramsden positively promise to deliver on a certain day. The day comes, but not the instrument. At length, Ramsden sent word to the King, that it was finished; on which a message was sent to him, desiring that he would bring it himself to the palace. He, however, answered, he *would not* come, unless

* This reproach is much too severe. Shoemakers, tailors, bricklayers, and carpenters, can generally command a sufficiency of hands, and are therefore better able to keep their appointments. But an instrument *for the King*, required, from the first manufacturer of optical or mathematical instruments, the most skilful of his artisans; and this, and other similar complaints, may have arisen from causes which he could not control. Besides, George the Third is said to have *made* Mr. Ramsden give the promise in question; consequently its breach lay partly upon himself, as *extorted* promises are not held binding in law or equity.—*Editor.*

his Majesty would promise not to be angry with him for his want of punctuality: "*Well, well,*" said the King, "*as he is conscious of his fault, it would be hard to reprove him for it!*"—On this assurance he went to the palace, where he was graciously received. The King, after expressing his entire satisfaction with the instrument, only added, with a good-natured smile, "*You have been uncommonly punctual this time, having brought the instrument on the very day of the month you promised it: you have only made a mistake* IN THE DATE OF THE YEAR!"—It was exactly a year after the stipulated time.—(*Cobbin's Georgiana*, p. 24, 25.)

George III. having been told of a gentleman of family and fortune of Perthshire, who had not merely refused to take the oaths of allegiance, but had *never* permitted his name to be mentioned in his presence, "*Carry my compliments to him,*" said the King, "*but—what—stop—no—he may perhaps not receive my compliments as King of England, give him the Elector of Hanover's compliments, and tell him that he respects the steadiness of his principles.*"*—*Hogg's Jacobin Relics* (from Cobbin).

"Through life the King had always an ardent curiosity to see every thing remarkable for novelty, and to converse with those who were noted even for their peculiarities. The extreme difference between his own rank, and that of those whom he sometimes patronized, was often the subject of illiberal and ill-mannered ridicule; but the following *jeu d'esprit*, which appeared in the *St. James's Chronicle*, on the 17th of December, 1776, and which Mr. Nichols attributed to the witty George Stevens, deserves to be recorded:—

* This looks very much like a spurious or fabricated anecdote, unless it was *ironically* spoken, and intended to shame a bigoted Jacobite; in which light it is not given: it is, therefore, altogether unlike so tenacious a Sovereign as George III.—(*Editor.*)

“ SIR!

—————’s Palace.

“ Politicians from this place inform us, that a new favourite has lately engrossed the K—’s attention, who bids fair to supplant the celebrated Pinchy and the facetious Grimaldi in the Royal favours. It is no less a person than the old deaf Moravian, James Hutton, who was formerly a bookseller, and lived near Temple-bar, famous for his refusing to sell Tom Brown’s work, and Clark on the Trinity. A certain lady who called at his shop for this last book, was induced by curiosity to know the bookseller’s reasons for his refusal; but whether he made a convert of the lady, or the lady of him, history is silent. Since that time he has travelled all over Germany and Switzerland, to spread the Moravian doctrine, and make proselytes to Count Zinzendorf’s creed.

“ Whether His Majesty intends to raise Moravian regiments by Hutton’s means among the faithful, to propagate the ministerial doctrine of unconditional submission in America, I know not; but this I am sure of, that a conversation between the King and Hutton must be exceedingly entertaining: Hutton is so *deaf*, that a speaking-trumpet will scarce make him hear; and the King *talks so fast*, that an ordinary converser cannot possibly keep pace with him! Hutton’s asthma makes him subject to frequent pauses and interruptions; so that two interpreters will be necessary to explain matters between the King and his new favourite. I hope Hutton and the Scotch junto are upon good terms, else he will soon be obliged to discontinue his visits at Buckingham House. After all, Hutton is an honest, humane, and sensible man, and worthy a King’s regard; and however bigoted he was formerly, and averse to selling the works of Samuel Clarke, I am told one of his favourite authors at present is honest Laurence Sterne, author of *Tristram Shandy*.

(*George III. and Family.*) “ CURRENT REPORT.”

The late King, in his walks about his farms, was often alone, and many little incidents occurred on meeting with rustics, to whom he was sometimes unknown. One day he had to pass through a narrow hedge-gate, on which sat a young clown, who shewed no readiness in moving. “ Who are you, boy?” said the King.—“ I be a pig boy,” answered he.—“ Where do you come from? Whom do you work for here?”—“ I be from the low country; out of work at present.”—“ Do they not

want lads here?" said the King. "I doant know," rejoined the boy; "all belongs hereabouts to Georgy."—"Boy," said His Majesty, "who is Georgy?"—"He be the King, and lives at the caistle, but he does no good for me." His Majesty immediately gave orders at his farm hard by, to have the boy employed; and, when he saw him, told him to be a steady lad, and the King might do some good for him.—(*Cobbin*, p. 42.)

Mr. Bolton, of Birmingham, soon after he was connected with Mr. Watt,* who was making such wonderful improvements in the steam-engine, appeared at St. James's on a levee day. "Well, Mr. Bolton," said the King, "I am glad to see you. What new project have you got now?"—"I am," said Mr. Bolton, "manufacturing a new article, that kings are very fond of."—"Ay, ay, Mr. Bolton, what is that?"—"It is Power, and please Your Majesty."—"Power! Mr. Bolton, we like power, that is true; but what do you mean?" "Why, Sire, I mean the power of steam to move machines." His Majesty appeared pleased; and laughing, said, "Very good; go on, go on!"—(*Cobbin*, p. 78.)

"Beaumarchais, better known as a literary than as a political character, may be considered as one of the chief promoters of the cause of American independence.

"He had purchased in Holland not fewer than 60,000 muskets, at a very low price, and sold them again upon credit to American agents. The sly author of *Figaro* was aware, that if the Americans should fail in their attempt, it would be all over with his demand, as well as with their liberty. He

* According to Lord Dundonald's assertions, Mr. Watt found genius, and Mr. Bolton *capital*: the man of science had *one-third* of the profits of their joint concerns; the man of money—*two*.

therefore endeavoured, by all possible means, to prevail upon the minister, Count Maurepas, to whom he had previously gained access, and whom he amused with his witty sallies, to take part in the war; and it was he chiefly who decided that statesman to commence hostilities with Great Britain."—(*George III. Court, &c. Vol. I. p. 394.*)

The merchants of Amsterdam and Zaandam had a much larger concern in aiding the revolted colonists,—violating the neutrality of Holland, by sending to St. Thomas's immense consignments of naval stores, and contraband of war of every kind. (*Editor.*)

A respectable mechanic, who had the honour and happiness to be personally known to His Majesty, was, through affliction in his family, brought into great pecuniary straits. He was advised to present a petition to the King, stating his circumstances.

He did so, and His Majesty was pleased to appoint a certain hour *on the next morning*, when the petitioner was ordered to be in waiting. The suppliant went accordingly to the gate of the Queen's lodge, but, through diffidence, did not ring for admittance. He lingered untill the appointed time was past by a few minutes, when the King came out, with some attendants. He instantly observed the petitioner, and said rather sharply, "*I desired you to be here precisely at such an hour; it is now five minutes past the time: you know that I am punctual.*" His Majesty condescendingly turned back, saying, "*Follow me!*" He proceeded through several rooms into his private closet; and, having shut the door, went to his desk, and took out a purse, and gave it to the applicant, and said, "*Here is money to pay your debts, and a trifle for yourself.*" The humble petitioner, overwhelmed with the King's goodness, dropped on his knees, and made a stammering effort to thank and bless

his Prince, but a flood of tears prevented him. His Majesty instantly put forth his hand, and with considerable emotion exclaimed, "*Get up! get up! thank God that I have it in my power to help an honest man.*"—(*Cobbin's Georgiana*, p. 38.)

At one of the field-days in the vicinity of Winchester, in the year 1778, Garrick found it necessary to dismount, when his horse escaped from his hold, and ran off: throwing himself immediately into his professional attitude, he cried out, as if on Bosworth-field, "A horse! a horse! my kingdom for a horse!" This exclamation, and the accompanying attitude, excited great amazement amongst the surrounding spectators, who knew him not: but it could not escape His Majesty's quick apprehension; for, it being within his hearing, he immediately said, "*Those must be the tones of Garrick! See if he is not on the ground.*" The theatrical and dismounted monarch was immediately brought to His Majesty; who not only condoled with him most good-humouredly on his misfortune, but flatteringly added, "that his delivery of Shakspeare could never pass undiscovered."—(*Northcotes's Life of Sir J. Reynolds.*)

At this period (1779) the King, always fond of music, was a constant attendant at the oratorios at Drury-lane Theatre, where, during the season, "Alexander's Feast" had been repeated every night, much to His Majesty's satisfaction as an admirer of Handel, and then a subject particularly applicable to, and replete with enjoyment to royal feelings. On one of these occasions, whilst the glowing and animating air—

"The Princes applaud with a furious joy,
And the King seized a flambeau, with zeal to destroy."

was performing, His Majesty, as if *suddenly struck* with the coincidence of some ideas connected with the *American war*, and with the military aid which



Lawrence.



Cumberland.



York & Albany.



Sussex.



Cambridge.

he was then expecting from Germany, *rolled up his* book of the oratorio into a truncheon, starting up at the same time, and *flourishing* it over his head, whilst he loudly cried out, "*Bravo! bravo! encore! encore!*" to the *great surprise* of the audience, before whom it had always been his habit to repress his feelings with a dignified composure. Here, however, the feelings of the man overcame the punctilio of regal etiquette.—(*George III. &c. Vol. I. p. 419.*)

The authenticity of this anecdote is unquestionable: not so the inference. There is scarcely a doubt but during the progress of the American war, when his feelings were very powerfully excited by the extremes of good or bad fortune, that the lurking seeds of mental derangement were occasionally called into play: from the vehemence of his action, and the wild *stare* that marked his eyes, the strong expression of idiocy on his features, the overpowering loudness of his tones, there is little doubt but this violence of gesticulation and exclamation were owing to a touch of mental insanity.—(*Editor.*)

Extracts from MRS. DELANY'S LETTERS, written between 1778 and 1789, descriptive of the private life of GEORGE III. his QUEEN, and FAMILY.

" Balstrode, June 28, 1779.

" The Royal Family (ten in all) came at twelve o'clock. The King drove the Queen in an open chaise, with a pair of white horses. The Prince of Wales and Prince Frederick rode on horseback, all with proper attendants, but no guards. Princess Royal and Lady Weymouth,* in a post-chaise; Princess Augusta, Princess Elizabeth, Prince Adolphus, (about seven years old), and Lady Charlotte Finch,† in a

* The Lady Elizabeth Cavendish Bentinck, eldest daughter of the Duchess Dowager of Portland.

† Daughter to Daniel, seventh earl of Winchelsea.

coach; Prince William, Prince Edward, Duke of Montague,* and Bishop of Litchfield, in a coach; another coach, full of attendant gentlemen; amongst the number, Mr. Smelt,† whose character sets him above most men, and does great honour to the King, who calls him his friend, and has drawn him out of his solitude (the life he had chosen) to enjoy his conversation every leisure moment. These, with all their attendants in rank and file, made a splendid figure as they drove through the park, and round the court, up to the house. The day was as brilliant as could be wished, the 12th of August, the Prince of Wales's birth-day. The Queen was in a hat, and an Italian night-gown of purple lustring, trimmed with silver gauze; she is graceful and genteel; the dignity and sweetness of her manners, the perfect propriety of every thing she says or does, satisfies every body she honours with her distinction so much, that beauty is by no means wanting to make her perfectly agreeable; and though age, and long retirement from court, made me feel timid on my being called to make my appearance, I soon found myself perfectly at ease; for the King's condescension and good-humour took off all awe, but what one must have for so respectable a character, (severely tried by his enemies at home as well as abroad). The three Princesses were all in frocks; the King and all the men were in an uniform, blue and gold. They walked through the great apartments, which are in a line, and attentively observed every thing; the pictures in particular. I kept back in the drawing-room, and took that opportunity of sitting down; when the Princess Royal returned to me, and said the Queen missed me in the train: I immediately obeyed the summons with my best alacrity. Her Majesty met me half way, and seeing me hasten my steps, called out to me, "Though I desired you to come, I did not desire you to run and fatigue yourself." They all returned to the great drawing-room, where there were only two armed chairs placed in the middle of the room for the King and Queen.—The King placed the Duchess Dowager of Portland in his chair, and walked about admiring the beauties of the place.

Breakfast was offered—all prepared in a long gallery that runs the length of the great apartments (a suite of eight rooms and three closets). The King and all his Royal Children, and the rest of the train, chose to go to the gallery, where the

* George, last Duke of Montague: he died in 1790.

† Formerly sub-governor to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales: from which situation he retired on a pension in the year 1771.

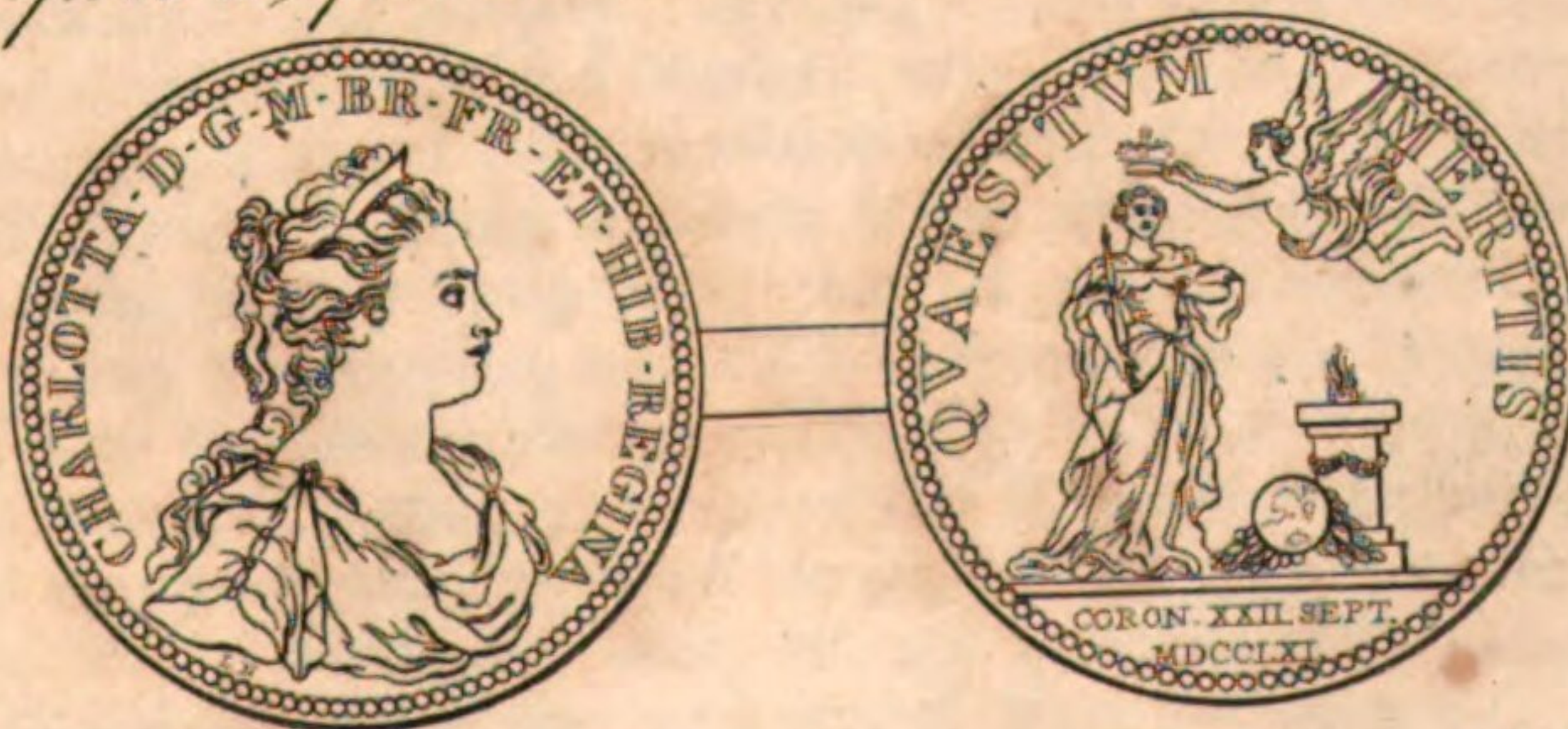
*The Medal distributed to commemorate the King's Coronation,
from a Gold specimen in the British Museum.*



*Medallions
worn by the Ladies of the Royal Family, and of the Court,
on accompanying the King to St Pauls Church
to return thanks for his recovery.*



*Gold Medal, to commemorate the Queen's Coronation,
from a specimen in the British Museum.*



W. M. Craig del.

W. Mallinson sculp.

Published by Henry Fisher. Carton. Liverpool. 1820.

well-furnished tables were set: one with tea, coffee, and chocolate; another with their proper accompaniments of eatables, rolls, cakes, &c.; another table with fruits and ices in the utmost perfection; which, with a magical touch, had succeeded a cold repast. The Queen remained in the drawing-room: I stood at the back of her chair, which happening to be one of my working, gave the Queen an opportunity of saying many flattering and obliging things.

“The Duchess Dowager of Portland brought Her Majesty a dish of tea on a waiter, with biscuits, which was what she chose; after she had drank her tea, she would not return the cup to the Duchess, but got up and would carry it into the gallery herself, and was much pleased to see with what elegance every thing was prepared; no servants but those out of livery made their appearance. The gay and pleasant appearance they all made, and the satisfaction all expressed, rewarded the attention and politeness of the Duchess of Portland, who is never so happy as when she gratifies those she esteems worthy of her attention and favours. The young Royals seemed quite happy, from the eldest to the youngest, and to inherit the gracious manners of their parents. I cannot enter upon their particular address to me, which not only did me honour, but showed their humane and benevolent respect for old age.

“The King desired me to shew the Queen one of my books of plants: she seated herself in the gallery; a table and the book laid before her.—I kept my distance, till she called me to ask some questions about the Mosaic paper-work; and as I stood before Her Majesty, the King set a chair behind me. I turned with some confusion and hesitation, on receiving so great an honour; when the Queen said, “Mrs. Delany, sit down, sit down; it is not every lady that has a chair brought her by a King:” so I obeyed. Amongst many gracious things, the Queen asked me why I was not with the Duchess when she came; for I might be sure she would ask for me? I was flattered, though I knew to whom I was obliged for the distinction, (and doubly flattered by that,) I acknowledged it in as few words as possible, and said, I was particularly happy at that time to pay my duty to Her Majesty, as it gave me an opportunity of seeing so many of the Royal Family, which age and obscurity had deprived me of. “Oh, but,” says Her Majesty, “you have not seen *all* my children yet;” upon which the King came up, and asked what we were talking about? Which was repeated; and the King replied to the Queen, “You may put Mrs. Delany into the way of doing

that, by naming a day for her to drink tea at Windsor Castle." The Duchess of Portland was consulted, and the next day fixed upon, as the Duchess had appointed the end of the week for going to Weymouth.

"We went at the hour appointed, seven o'clock, and were received in the lower private apartment at the Castle: went through a large room with great bay windows, where were all the Princesses and youngest Princes, with their attendant ladies and gentlemen. We passed on to the bedchamber, where the Queen stood in the middle of the room, with Lady Weymouth and Lady Charlotte Finch: (the King and the eldest Princes had walked out). When the Queen took her seat, and the ladies their places, she ordered a chair to be set for me opposite to where she sat, and asked me if I felt any wind from the door or window?—It was indeed a sultry day.

"At eight, the King, &c. came into the room, with so much cheerfulness and good-humour, that it was impossible to feel any painful restriction. It was the hour of the King and Queen, and eleven of the Princes and Princesses, walking on the terrace. They apologized for going, but said the crowd expected them; but they left Lady Weymouth and the Bishop of Lichfield to entertain us in their absence: we sat in the bay-window, well pleased with our companions, and the brilliant show on the terrace, on which we looked; the band of music playing all the time under the window.

"When they returned we were summoned into the next room to tea, and the Royals began a ball, and danced two country dances, to the music of French horns, bassoons, and hautboys, which were the same that played on the terrace. The King came up to the Prince of Wales, and said he was sure, *when he considered how great an effort it must be to play that kind of music so long a time together, that he would not continue their dancing there, but that the Queen and the rest of the company were going to the Queen's house, and they should renew their dancing there, and have proper music.*"*

* This trait of humanity is very honourable to the feelings of the late King.



Edmon C.



Adm. Carl Howel



C. J. Fox



W. W. W. W.



B. Sheridan

CHAPTER XXI.

THIRD EPOCH.—1781 TO 1791.

The American War the source of Anti-Christian opinions.—A coup d'œil of the third Epoch.—Origin of the War with Holland.—An original anecdote.—Vice-Admiral Sir George Collier, M. P.—German mercenaries.—George the Third's rebuke to insolent Courtiers.—Unconstitutional proceedings.—General Peace.—George III. and his Excellency JOHN ADAMS.—Prince of Wales's establishment.—Taste for music in George III.—Royal Tour.—Margaret Nicholson.—The King's visit to Whitbread's brewhouse.—Original Biographical Sketches: Lord Eldon, Sir William Scott, and the Earl of Dundonald.—Confirmed insanity of George III.—Its political results.—The source of the French Revolution.—Strictures on that stupendous event.—Captain Vancouver: a sketch of his life and character.—PITT-politics.—Ockzakow.—Nootka Sound.—The fall of POLAND.

THE worst effect of the first American war was not the loss of lives it occasioned, of *treasures* which it dissipated, nor the dreadful weight of taxation which has ever since pressed so heavily upon the resources of Great Britain; but in the frightful mass of *moral depravity* to which it gave birth in Europe, amongst the keen and eager sons of commerce. The waste of lives has already been repaired; and in part, the loss of wealth; but the *deadly taint* of false-swearing, of deep, complicated, elaborate, mercenary perjuries, forgeries, and frauds, which it introduced into European commerce, still maintained its triumphant course, till its infernal spirit was cherished by British merchants, sanctioned by British policy, and whose

legitimate offspring is that contempt of Christianity, its foundation, and its institutes, which very recently led to the display of "*a Temple of Reason*," in the metropolis, and its tens of thousands of votaries!

To trace the corruptions of traffic to its source, would be to begin with its first operations; but that more deadly iniquity to which the Editor alludes, commenced about the year 1780, when certain enterprising merchants of Amsterdam and Groningen, set up at Embden a nominal house of trade, to cover and protect their ships and commerce under the flag of Prussia. The chief object of this foul device was, to screen from British capture the ships and merchandise of those individuals who had, from the first commencement of the Anglo-American disputes, poured in vast quantities of arms, ammunition, and useful supplies of every kind, then wanting in the colonies.—Those vessels used to clear outwards for St. Eustatia, or Curaçoa, or the Danish settlement at St. Thomas's, whence, in smaller craft, the cargoes were transmitted to their final destination.

Such practices caused the Court of St. James's to remonstrate with William the Fifth, whom the Anti-Stattholderian party stigmatized as being the puppet of the British cabinet. A war with England becoming probable, the crafty merchants, as a measure of precaution, adopted the expedient described, and, suddenly, the ocean was traversed by Dutch ships, laden with Dutch cargoes, and navigated by Dutch mariners, under the emblems of Prussia! This daring fraud was perpetrated by the connivance of venal magistrates, and by the most elaborate perjuries. Its roots struck deep in the soil of commerce, and at first it yielded golden fruit. Providence has, however, wisely ordained that great national crime shall produce its own peculiar punishment. Many of the ships were seized by

British cruisers, and condemned. Instantly all Europe resounded with the fallacious, mercenary, and deceptious cries of the Dutch merchants against *British injustice*,—they forced the Stadtholder into a war with England: the celebrated armed neutrality of the North, idly menaced the Queen of the Ocean; and Holland suffered fifty times greater loss by war than all that perjury had gained. It was a stupendous proof of the dire effects of commercial cupidity, that in 1783, when peace was restored, there were at least a thousand Dutch ships covered by false papers and false flags; and many thousand cargoes had thus, by the hell-born blast of perjury, been wafted from port to port, from realm to realm! This polluted traffic gave a far more dangerous blow to Christianity, than all the writings of all the Deists of Europe; and which deterioration grew out of that parent pest, the American war!

The great political features of this important epoch, are:—

The utter failure of the American war; the surrender of British sovereignty over the thirteen United Provinces; and the acknowledgment of the American colonists as a free and independent State:—the progress of the national call for a practical and efficient reform of Parliament; the abolition of rotten boroughs; extension of the elective franchise; and a shorter duration of Parliaments.

That great event, the FRENCH REVOLUTION, though pregnant with alarm to the stanch friends of political corruption, and hailed by millions with enthusiasm, as the most auspicious event for universal happiness which had appeared in the annals of mankind, had not yet assumed an aspect which warranted even a talk of war. The last great popular topic on which the public mind was intensely occupied, was the ABOLITION of the AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE, that foul disgrace to Christianity; the success of which great undertak-

ing rested principally on the development of sound moral and political principles of government; and the gradual diffusion of useful knowledge in those islands.

The conduct of George III. when the painful moment arrived, that he had not merely to relinquish the sovereignty over the fairest portion of his foreign dominions, but personally to acknowledge as an EQUAL, the man whom his late subjects should elect as their king or ruler, was manly and dignified. His demeanour was so correct, that CHARLES FOX said, to his witty and facetious friend GEORGE SELWYN, "If George III. were condemned to die for the part he has acted in provoking the American war, he would deserve a pardon for the greatness of mind, and suavity of manners, displayed in meeting the American Ambassador at St. James's."—"True!" said SELWYN, shrugging up his shoulders, "George was always a *good actor*; but John Bull won't like the cost of the exhibition."

As respects the demand of the nation for a reform of Parliament, the King's personal bias lay in the opposite scale. In this he was ill-advised; for whatever had a tendency to diminish the security and the limits of freedom, inevitably narrows the basis, and undermines the pillars, of the Throne.

The excellent morals of George III. renders it almost superfluous to say, that in him the Slave-trade had neither friend nor patron. George III. stood arraigned, as regarded the French Revolution, not alone by English reformers, but by Foreigners of great talents and endowments, as having been one the foremost Princes, in his capacity as Elector of Hanover, in stirring up a coalition against liberty.

It is too well known to need any elucidation, that the Hon. WILLIAM PITT, second son to the Earl of Chatham, started in Parliament on the

same liberal principles as his greater competitor CHARLES JAMES FOX. SHERIDAN, BURKE, FRANCIS, and a host of mighty names, rose also in bright effulgence, as popular advocates and defenders of the people's rights. In the House of Lords, the most inveterate opposers of retrenchment and reform, were Lawyers, or their descendants, the recently created nobility. The DUKE of RICHMOND, in whose veins flowed the blood of kings and heroes, stood forward the firm and undaunted antagonist of Parliamentary corruption, and advocate for REFORM.

The military aid lent to the revolted colonists by France, served as a counterpoise to the German mercenaries purchased by British gold. Vice-Admiral Sir George Collier, who was appointed naval Commander in Chief on the American station, took over an Hessian general, and a large reinforcement of marketable German troops. In his private letters, wherein he mentions those mercenaries, that amiable gentleman, and very able commander, expressed mingled compassion and keen contempt; compassion for the general, officers, and men, who were transferred from one sovereign to another like so many head of cattle, and with as little respect to their will or their interests; and with marked contempt of their venal sovereigns, who thus basely disposed of the blood of their people. In the private letters written by this naval commander to his friends, he complained of *too little respect* shewn by George III. to naval officers, lamenting in very feeling terms the ascendancy gained at Court by *the army*; and distinctly intimating, that the late Queen had, as he feared and believed, a leading influence in those injurious prepossessions! The Editor states these particulars, not by hearsay evidence, but on the authority of MS. copies of those elegant letters, in the handwriting of their brave accomplished author: un-

happily, at the present eventful hour, this preference to the *red coat* over the *blue*, is more than ever predominant!—The year 1781 was marked, in America, by that irreparable stroke of evil fortune, to the Royal cause, the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York-town. Gloom and despondency were increased rapidly at home by this great disaster.

Amongst the King's pursuits was an aquatic excursion to the Nore, accompanied by the Prince of Wales: he could not confer any greater distinction on the Admiral, Sir Hyde Parker, because that seaman's modesty forbade its acceptance. The Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York, (then Bishop of Osnaburg,) were at this time as elegant young men as any family in England could shew. The King sent the latter to Germany, for the advantage of a Prussian education in the military-art: an intention by no means congenial with British feelings, which had been more gratified if the King had sent his younger sons to the British Universities for education. Mr. Burke's celebrated bill for the regulation of the King's household expenses, was at this time in operation; and the discomfited courtiers raised the most clamorous and ludicrous complaints, pretending that the King was actually limited to a given number of *apples* for his dessert. Amongst the scientific patronage afforded by the King at this period, was the liberal aid granted to the celebrated astronomer, **HERSCHEL**. The Earl of **BUCHAN**, in one of his many very elegant and classical essays published in '*The Bee*,' mentions, that just as some nobles and courtiers were busily censuring the policy of placing such considerable sums at the disposal of the man of science, and intimating that George III. lost sight of his high dignity as a Monarch, by associating, as it were, with so humble and obscure an individual; a tall, florid, robust, middle-aged gen-

tleman entered, dressed in the Windsor hunt-uniform, a cap on his head, a whip in his hand—"What! What! do you say!—The King can *make* plenty of nobles and courtiers *every day*, but it requires an age to produce an **HERSCHEL**." George the Third thus shewed how prolific the insect-tribe of courtiers are, and of how little worth! In the year 1782, that political anomaly '*the coalition*,' took place between Lord North and **CHARLES JAMES FOX**; an event which produced a strong feeling of public disgust, and ended in the defeat and disgrace of the subservient Whigs. In the historical annals of George III. the year 1783 will ever form a prominent feature, from the **GENERAL PEACE** then negociated, and the formal acknowledgment of the sovereignty, free and unconditional, of the United States of North America. An attentive reader of British history will perceive, tracing the rise and progress of that infant Republic, something so very like the result of an all-ruling Providence, that he will perhaps be inclined to pardon the folly, perverseness, and *blindness* of those British Ministers, who seem to have been no less instrumental in its perfect formation, than **WASHINGTON**, **FRANKLIN**, **HANCOCK**, **ADAMS**, or **PAINE**. The first Envoy to George III. was **JOHN ADAMS**, a most respectable character at all periods of his life; and originally a schoolmaster, an occupation much more respected in America, and indeed almost every where, than in England. The Honourable Mr. Adams was firm, sedate, and moderate, in his sentiments; plain, but not ungraceful, in his manners. He was learned, without being pedantic; and though he mainly contributed to form a government without hereditary lords, prelates, or kings, he was much too wise a man to shew the least want of respect to either of those exalted ranks. And justice requires an acknowledgment, that the representative of the American Republic

was no less distinguished by his erect mien, firm step, a full and sonorous voice, and gentlemanly demeanour; profoundly respectful to the sovereign he had abjured, and heedless of the half-suppressed sneers or frowns of the burnished courtiers, who stood half petrified at a scene, which in 1773 they laughed at, as an idiot's dream. When, at this period, they contemplated its sad reality, they almost fancied it an illusion.—“I WAS THE LAST MAN TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR INDEPENDENCE,” said George III. to the American ambassador; “BUT NOW THAT YOUR INDEPENDENCE HAS BEEN RATIFIED, I WILL BE THE FIRST ENGLISHMAN TO PREVENT ITS VIOLATION!”

Of domestic incidents, the most material was the establishment of a household for the Prince of Wales required by the King, which, in every point, was very liberally granted, although not without strong opposition, and weighty objections. On the 8th of May, 1783, the young Prince, Octavius, died at the age of four years and about ten weeks.

Mr. Fox's celebrated India Bill was the rock on which the ‘coalition ministry’ went to pieces.

George III. on this occasion, is said to have had an interview with Lord Temple in the closet, and to have declared his *personal and strong* disapprobation of the India Bill; and also that the late King, in a *written note*, declared he should deem those who should vote for it, NOT *his friends*,—and further, that several communications were made to peers, and others dependent on the Crown, to this effect. This was *unconstitutional*, to say the least of it, and displayed a spirit ill according with that mildness and equity so commonly attributed to George III.

In the dismissal of the Hon. CHARLES JAMES Fox and Lord North, after the failure of the India Bill, George III. acted with marked severity. The

evening following the rejection of that Bill, he sent to inform the two Secretaries of State he had *no further occasion for their services*; ordering them to be acquainted that a *personal interview* would be disagreeable, and requiring them *instantly* to give up the seals. Some delay took place about Lord North's seal, but the King waited quietly till *one* in the morning:—Mr. PITT became prime minister the next morning!

The King, by the advice of his *Tory-Counsellors*, if the phrase is allowable, dissolved the parliament, and hence may be dated the commencement of the PITT ADMINISTRATION, which forms so distinct an era in the British annals. Amongst the minor incidents of the year 1784, the stealing of the Great Seal from Lord Thurlow's house, excited more surprise than it ought, and gave rise to strange conjectures.—The fine taste of George III. in musical compositions, especially of the grander and more solemn kind, has been repeatedly noticed in this Memoir: the great musical festival, held on the 26th of May in Westminster Abbey, under the immediate patronage of the King, formed an epoch in his annals. The Editor was one of the auditors; and never, while memory lasts, will the impression produced on his senses be obliterated. 'Here,' indeed, 'was mingled all the youth, beauty, grandeur, and taste, of the nation, unrestrained by forms, and grouped in natural and easy appearance. But the magic of sweet-sounds far surpassed all other attractions: the performances lasted from morn till eve, and yet it seemed too short. The King, Queen, and Royal Family, the latter in the bloom of youthful beauty, formed a most attractive feature of that grand national festival in honour of the memory of the great HANDEL.—During the parliamentary sessions of 1784, the forfeited estates of the known adherents of the Stuarts, were *partially* restored. It had been still more honourable to have restored

the whole: it is a terrible law that extends its punishment to the unborn and the innocent!—Scarcely a new feature in the memoirs of George III. is discoverable in the year 1785, except His Majesty's visits to Oxford, Nuneham, Blenheim Castle, and other villas. In 1786, the Prince of Wales's debts were paid by the public. On the 2d of August, a female maniac, named Margaret Nicholson, having concealed a knife in a roll which appeared like a petition, made a plunge at George III. as he alighted from his travelling chariot at the garden gate, St. James's Palace. An event of this nature could not fail to excite great agitation, nor to give birth to the wildest suggestions: the King escaped unhurt,—a multitude of private persons were converted into knights; and the unhappy woman, whose insanity was fully proved, was placed in Bedlam hospital, doomed to perpetual imprisonment, but otherwise comfortably provided for; a mode of procedure alike lawful and merciful.*

The chief domestic events of 1787, as respected the Royal Family, was the death of the Princess Amelia, aunt to George III. and daughter to George II. Amongst its more cheerful incidents—the King's visit to Mr. Samuel Whitbread's brewhouse in *Chiswell-street*,† accompanied by the Queen and Royal Family. Dr. WALCOT found, as usual, food for his satirical pen; and, amongst the number of his readers, the King, no doubt, was one, and as capable as any other, of duly appreciating its humour, and laughing at the witty sallies of the bard.

* Mrs. DELANY's letters mention this affair, and contain some very interesting details of the private life of George III. a copious selection of which will be found at the end of this narrative.

† The large tin-ware factory, late Mr. Howard's, at the south end of Brick-lane, Old-street, was Mr. Whitbread's old brewhouse, previous to his removal thence to Chiswell-street.

In the year 1788, Mr. JOHN SCOTT, now Baron ELDON, received his first court-honour; being knighted. This gentleman, and his brother, WILLIAM SCOTT,* were young men of Cumberland, respectably, but not nobly, connected. They were educated on the foundation of Queen's College, Oxford. The elder brother fitted himself for the common law; the younger, for the prerogative courts, as a civilian. They had their fortunes to seek, and perhaps there is no instance of two brothers making their way from situations so humble, to the top of their respective pursuits; the one becoming Lord Chancellor, the other the Judge of the Admiralty and Ecclesiastical Court, and acquiring such enormous fortunes! Unlike their great master, WILLIAM PITT, they began their political career in the wake of ministers: and whilst it is not to be supposed they ever gave a vote, after they had made their way into parliament, contrary to their consciences; a recurrence to the Journals of the House would prove that they never, on a single occasion, opposed the PITT administrations, or the PITT politics.

The fate, and the genius, of Archibald Earl of DUNDONALD, father to Admiral Lord Cochrane, affords the most striking contrast to the fortunes of these Cumberland youths.

The Earl was educated at the celebrated Grammar School at Homerton, near Hackney. At this early period of life, the young Lord (Cochrane) visited the house of JAMES and THOMAS COUTTS. The elder brother (James) was married: amongst

* In the year 1812, the Hon. William Herbert, M. P. &c. wrote a letter to the Editor, in reply to a preceding communication relative to the enormous perjuries connected with the license system of trade, in which that distinguished civilian strongly expressed his regret at the Judge of the Admiralty Court being also a Privy Counsellor.

his household was the handsome Lancashire maiden, BETTY STARKEY, (mentioned p. 498,) with whom, particularly when the *laundry work* was going forward, the young lordling used to play his boyish pranks; and, in return, Betty seldom failed to sprinkle him plentifully with soap-suds!

Unlike the brothers, John and William Scott, the dawn of Lord Dundonald's life was flattering, as his talents and genius were brilliant. Even in his youth, his Lordship commenced his scientific pursuits, and gave the public their benefit.

Nearly about the period when Mr. JOHN SCOTT was knighted, the Earl of Dundonald, having perfected his great attempt to extract tar, &c. from pit-coal, and discovered the inflammability of coal-gas, had the honour of a private audience of George III. at Buckingham house. Those who knew the old Peer, knew also, that in the flower of his days, it would have been difficult to name a finer man, or one whose manners were more graceful, than this earl. He had the honour of presenting the King with a gold box, containing specimens of each kind of useful matter produced by his celebrated distillation of coal. The Earl repeatedly assured the Editor, that the King's remarks were pertinent, and such as shewed a strong, cultivated, and reflecting mind. George III. paid the earl many compliments on his successful labours; but prejudiced, as the man of science believed, by his Scottish advisers, who cherished a strong antipathy against a descendant of a line of ancient Whigs, the Earl failed of obtaining that high patronage which he had so nobly earned and deserved. A few years afterwards, he sunk overwhelmed by the enormous expenses to which his important and grand experiments had subjected him! His mind too, ever ardent, ever buoyant, as it had heretofore proved, now began to sink under the load of misfortunes. Having been thus reduced to indigence, he applied, by

letter, to ministers, to allow him two hundred pounds per annum to help to educate his children. They did not, indeed, deny his request; for they deigned not the cheap civility of a reply!—Yet, of the hundreds of names that crowd the pension list, there was not one to be found whose claims were stronger than his. The accomplished old Peer, about two years since married, Miss PLOWDEN, daughter of the eminent Irish historian, and though past his seventieth year, his third Countess presented him with a son.—But genius, they say, *never grows old*.

The King, Queen, and Princesses, passed the summer of 1788 in a tour through Oxford, Gloucester, and Worcestershire, and passed some weeks at Cheltenham, to try the efficacy of the mineral waters there. And soon after his return to Windsor, the most alarming rumours prevailed as to his melancholy condition, which was of a nature that admitted of no concealment, for he was attacked by outrageous insanity. Adopting the principle laid down in the Prospectus, the Editor will draw a veil over a calamity, which created the most powerful sympathy ever felt by the British nation.

This deplorable visitation led to very warm discussions in both houses of parliament, relative to a Regent and a Regency! *The King's friends*, having the *loaves* and *fishes* in possession, fought hard to keep what they had got, and grasp all they could: '*the Prince's friends*' were all OUTS, and *they* had a up-hill battle to fight, and were stoutly buffeted by the INS; but just as the latter, with the *pious* and *benevolent* Lord Thurlow, were thinking in good earnest of retiring, His Majesty happily recovered. Too much of personal and petty feelings were evinced amongst the regal festivities which ensued; and the mischievous appellation, '*The King's friends*,' acquired great additional force.

The King and Queen, their Family, and house-

hold, went in grand procession to St. Paul's cathedral: the splendid illuminations which ensued, the rejoicings which took place in almost every town and village, as well as city, in England, must have been eminently consolatory to the Royal convalescent.

The FRENCH REVOLUTION was effected on the 14th of July 1789. The Editor has no other business with that vast occurrence, than to endeavour to reveal its true sources. It belongs to the historian to detail its course, and recite its all-astounding consequences.

Its remote cause existed in the stupendous vices of the Bourbon princes, their courtiers, and the priesthood. By the combined effects of those copious fountains of human misery and degradation, the fairest region in Europe, with its inhabitants, groaned beneath the iron rod of despotism, sunk deep in ignorance, and still further debased by the grossest superstition. Nor was the difference very great between the intellectual incapacity of the Monarch, and the most illiterate rustic: they were almost equally ignorant, and alike immoderately priest-ridden. The pollution assembled round the throne, disseminated its poison throughout the land. Yet, amidst this overwhelming torrent of moral depravity, some few noble families exhibited a fine contrast by their virtues,—but these were provincials, and—*strangers at Court*. The local parliament contained a sprinkling of great minds, who beheld with abhorrence the despotism and voluptuousness by which the genius of their nation had been debased.

The accursed feudal system shed its deadliest influence; no man's liberty or property, no woman's honour, was safe, if a *privileged favourite* willed its sacrifice. To angle a trout, shoot a partridge, or course a hare, even though the stream ran through, or the game was fed upon, his own land, rendered

the *plebeian* liable to punishments fitted rather for such crimes as rape or parricide.

Laved by an ocean of voluptuousness,—‘dipped to the chin’ in sensual pleasure,—surrounded by accomplished nobles without probity,—by prelates without religion,—by beautiful ladies without virtue or modesty,—the King heard not the curses and the groans of an impoverished people, he saw not the want and wretchedness that prevailed in the cottages of the sinewy hinds, caused by the waste of their hard earnings in his seraglios and palaces. He looked with the eyes, he heard with the ears, of his unprincipled ministers and courtiers! The pillars of the throne were completely undermined; and the feeble Prince entertained no idea that the boundless profusion of his court could bring on poverty and bankruptcy; and that the same army on which the existent despotism relied for its support, might at any instant effect its utter destruction!—Of those self-evident truths, which the meanest capacity could understand and appreciate, the deluded Monarch seemed entirely ignorant, till the whole system of venerable misrule tumbled in and crushed the despotism and its throne, by which it had been constructed.

Divine Providence, in compassion to mankind, suffered the French court to pursue, unchecked, its career of folly and iniquity, till, in the full blossom of its *Royal wisdom*, it determined upon a measure no less anomalous, than that of helping the revolted colonists of America to establish a free and independent republic!

The gay young Frenchman who had embarked for America, pleased with his burnished chains, and proud to shew himself the most obsequious vassal of “*Le grand Monarch!*” cured of his infatuation, and half converted to republicanism, returned to France an altered being, no longer proud of thralldom, but panting for freedom!

Long previous to the Revolution, the wickedness of the Court, and the expediency of punishing those *seditionary demagogues*, as the courtiers audaciously styled those who opposed their wicked and corrupt career, had greatly lowered the judicial character, and brought the courts of law into deep and general disrepute in France. Of all possible courses to ruin any nation, next to that of a wasteful, libidinous, cruel, persecuting monarch, is a bench of time-serving judges. Of all symptoms of national decay, this is the most unerring! And it is that terrible evil, which, taking away every hope of justice through the regular course of law, arms the enraged sufferer against his oppressor, and palliates, although it cannot—justify assassination! But the wicked judge is by far the most injurious character: the assassin only kills a reasonable being, but the ermined ruffian kills reason itself, and mocks and blasphemes the Deity, in whose hallowed name his judicial murders are always perpetrated.

Such were the great and leading causes of the French Revolution.

Resuming the memoir of George III. the year 1790 teems with abundance of anecdote, but very few new incidents. The fixed characters and established manners of the King and Queen, presented nothing novel. The French Revolution, and its prodigious results, wrought very powerfully on the public mind; leading to new and more determined measures, on the part of those who advocated the necessity of a complete reform of the House of Commons, to carry that great measure into full effect. Scarcely had this popular sentiment shewed itself, than the ministerial writers began to charge the admirers of the French Revolution, with secretly intending to bring about a similar event at home. It would be uncandid, were the Editor to assert that none of the many warm

admirers of the revolutionists of France entertained an opinion that a commonwealth would be more advantageous than a monarchy; or that others were not actuated by downright selfish principles, aiming to operate an insurrection at home, in the hope of bettering their own fortune: but the great mass of the British nation hailed the event from the most generous of feelings; delighted with the fall of a despotism so inherently wicked, and no less pleased with the prospect of a just, wise, and liberal government, arising upon its ruins. At the same time no observant spectator could fail to be struck with the fact, that those that were loudest in their cry against parliamentary reform, were exclusively those who gained the most by existent abuses.

The recovery of the King, and the sudden dissipation of the regency-vision, gave the Whigs a blow by which they were divided, stunned, and paralyzed. Mr. PITT was now unrivalled lord of the ascendant; and all his mental powers, his still greater power of PATRONAGE—were exerted to stem and neutralize the call of the nation for that REFORM of GRIEVANCES which he had formerly so frequently and emphatically pronounced, were essential to the liberty and safety of the state.

It was in the year 1790, that Captain Vancouver, an experienced seaman, was appointed to command an expedition for the discovery of a North-West Passage. This person was a Hollander by descent, and although possessing a keener head than Captain Cook, and a more polished exterior, he was much his inferior in nautical skill, in humanity, in the art of maintaining discipline in a ship's company, without too frequent a use of the cat-o'-nine tails, or the bilboes. The result of Captan Vancouver's voyage of discovery, added considerably to the stock of information obtained by his greater predecessor; and is supposed to have proved, that

if a passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean exists, there is no practicable channel of communication. More recent attempts have tended to confirm this opinion.

About this period the *politics* of *Prussia* seemed at the top of their influence at St. James's. It was *that* influence which had instigated Princess Wilhelmina, consort to the weak, good-natured Prince William the Fifth, to adopt those arbitrary measures which convulsed all the provinces, and introduced a *foreign army*; measures which George the Third might, but did not, control. And the same baneful influence paralyzed the cabinet of St. James's, and allowed POLAND to be dismembered by the same voracious Monarch. Yet had Mr. PITT not been overawed by the bold eloquence of Mr. Fox, he would have plunged Great Britain into a war with Russia, to preserve the distant fortress of Ockzakow: he made serious manifestations of going to war with Spain about Nootka Sound, whilst he suffered POLAND to be plundered, desolated, and obliterated from the list of nations. Such was the weak and dastardly *foreign politics* of WILLIAM PITT!

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE THIRD EPOCH: 1781—1791.

Extracts from Mrs. DELANY's Letters continued.—

The King and Mr. Judge Hardinge.

EXTRACT, No. 2.

“ December 9, 1781.

“ On Tuesday morning, a quarter before ten, the Duchess of Portland stepped into her chaise, and I had the honour of attending her. We went to Garrat's Cross, about the middle of the Common, by the appointment and command of the

King, who came about a quarter of an hour after, with the Prince of Wales and a large retinue. His Majesty came up immediately to the Duchess of Portland's carriage, most gracious, and delighted to see the Duchess out so early.

"The Queen was there with the two eldest Princesses and Lady Courtown, in a post coach-and-four. The King came with a message from the Queen to the Duchess of Portland, to say her Majesty would see her safe back to Bulstrode, and breakfast with Her Grace.

"The Duke of Cumberland was there; and a great many carriages, and many of our acquaintance: amongst them, Lady Mary Forbes* and her family. She took three rooms at the Bull Inn, and breakfasted thirty people.

"The King himself ordered the spot where the Duchess of Portland's chaise should stand to see the stag turned out. It was brought in a cart to that place by the King's command. The stag was set at liberty, and the poor trembling creature bounded over the plain, in hopes of escaping from his pursuers; but the dogs and the hunters were soon after him, and all out of sight.

"The Duchess of Portland returned home, in order to be ready to receive the Queen, who immediately followed before we could pull off our bonnets and cloaks. We received her Majesty and the Princesses on the steps at the door.

"She is so condescending and gracious that she makes every thing perfectly easy. We got home a quarter before eleven o'clock; her Majesty staid till two. In her return back to Windsor she met the chase, and was at the taking of the stag; they would not let the dogs kill him.

"On Wednesday, the Duchess of Portland intended to go to return the Queen thanks for the honour she had done her: we were to set out early. I dressed my head for the day before breakfast, when a letter arrived from Miss Hamilton,† from the Queen's Lodge, to me, with a message from the King, to desire we would not come till Thursday evening, eight o'clock; as he could not be at home till then. Accordingly we went: were there at the appointed hour. The King and Queen and the Princesses received us in the drawing-room. Princess Mary took me by the left hand.

* Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Richard Powis, of Hindesham-Hall, in Suffolk, married James, the second Earl of Courtown.

† Afterwards Mrs. Dickinson.

Princess Sophia, and the sweet little Prince Octavius,* took me by the right hand, and led me after the Duchess of Portland into the drawing-room. The King nodded and smiled upon my little conductors, and bade them lead me up to the Queen, who stood in the middle of the room. When we were all seated, (for the Queen is so gracious she will always make me sit down,) the Duchess of Portland sat next to the Queen, and I sat next to the Princess Royal. On the other side of me was a chair, and his Majesty did me the honour to sit by me.

“He went backwards and forwards between that and the music-room: he was so gracious as to have a good deal of conversation with me, particularly about Handel’s music; and ordered those pieces to be played which he found I gave a preference to. In the course of the evening, the Queen changed places with the Princess Royal, saying, most graciously, she must have a little conversation with Mrs. Delany, which lasted about half an hour. She then got up, it being half-an-hour after ten, and said she was afraid she should keep the Duchess of Portland too late, and made her courtesy, and we withdrew. There was nobody but their attendants, and Lord and Lady Courtown.

“Nothing could be more easy and agreeable. We came home very well lighted by our lanterns, and the Northern lights; sat down and ate a hearty supper at twelve o’clock, and slept very well after it. I own I expected to be more fatigued than I was. I thank God, the Duchess of Portland got no cold, and we are both very well.”

EXTRACT, No. 3.

“*Bulstrode, October 10th, 1783.*

“In a few days after our arrival here, the Duchess of Portland and I were sitting in the long gallery, very busy with our different employments, when, without any ceremony, His Majesty walked up to our table unperceived and unknown, till he came quite up to us.

“You may believe we were at first a little fluttered with his royal presence; but his courteous and affable manner soon made him a welcome guest: he came to inform the Duchess of Portland of the Queen’s perfect recovery after her lying-in, which made him doubly welcome.

† Died May, 1783, aged four years.



Princess Augusta.



Princess Elizabeth.



*Charlotte,
Queen Dowager
of Württemberg.*



Mary, Duchess of Gloucester.



Princess Sophia.

“ Breakfast was called for, and after a visit of two hours, the King left us. About a week after this, the King and Queen came together, only accompanied by Lady Courtown. They breakfasted, and stayed much about the same time. The *etiquette* is, that the person, on whom such an honour is conferred, goes the next day to inquire after Their Majesties; but the Queen waved that ceremony, and desired the Duchess not to come till she received a summons, as they were going to St. James's for some days. Last Thursday, 2d of October, a little before twelve o'clock, word was brought that the Royal Family were coming up the park; and immediately after, two coaches-and-six, with the King on horseback, and a great retinue, came up to the hall door. The Company were, the King and Queen, Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Mary, and Princess Sophia;—a lovely group, all dressed in white muslin polonoises, white chip hats with white feathers, except the Queen, who had on a black hat and cloak;—the King dressed in his Windsor uniform of blue and gold; the Queen, attended by the Duchess of Ancaster, who is mistress of the robes, and Lady Elizabeth Waldegrave,* who attends the eldest Princesses, and Mrs. Goldsworthy, who is sub-governess to the three younger Princesses. The King had no attendants but the equerries, Major Digby and Major Price.

“ They were in the drawing-room before I was sent for, where I found the King, and Queen, and Duchess of Portland, seated at a table in the middle of the room. The King, with his usual graciousness, came up to me, and brought me forward, and I found the Queen very busy in shewing a very elegant machine to the Duchess of Portland, which was a frame for weaving of fringe, of a new and most delicate structure, and would take up as much paper as has already been written upon, to describe it minutely, yet it is of such simplicity as to be very useful. You will easily imagine the grateful feeling I had when the Queen presented it to me, to make up some knotted fringe which she saw me about. The King, at the same time, said he must contribute something to my work, and presented me with a gold knotting-shuttle, of

* Elizabeth Laura, daughter of James, second Earl of Waldegrave, by Maria, (daughter of Sir Edward Walpole,) afterwards Duchess of Gloucester, married to her first cousin, George, fourth Earl of Waldegrave.

the most exquisite workmanship and taste; and I am at this time, while I am dictating the letter, knotting white silk, to fringe the bag which is to contain it."

EXTRACT, No. 5.

" *Bulstrode, 22d June, 1781.*

" As soon as the bitterness of winter was over, I received the King and Queen's commands to attend the Duchess of Portland to the Queen's-House, at eight o'clock in the evening: there was no company there but the five Princesses and Lady Charlotte Finch. There was a concert of music in the next room, which (the door being open) we heard in a very agreeable manner.

" The King walked backwards and forwards between the rooms; had a great deal of conversation with the Duchess of Portland; and did me the honour of sharing in it sometimes.

" We had much talk, particularly about music, and his Majesty condescended to order those pieces of music to be played that he called my favourites. The Duchess of Portland sat on the Queen's right hand, and I on her left. Her Majesty talked a great deal to me about books, especially about those on religion, and recommended to me an explanation of the four Evangelists translated from the German. The next morning she sent me a present of the work, in three volumes.

" The old 14th of May, which my dear and valuable friends in Ireland so often made a day of delight to me, is not quite laid aside: my young niece Port, takes upon her every year, on its return, to invite a select set of company, not exceeding six persons, to dine with me. On the last, a summons was sent to me from their Majesties, that as they were informed it was my birth-day, they must see me; and I, with the Duchess of Portland, obeyed their commands that evening. Nobody there but the Royal family, Lady Charlotte Finch, and Lady Weymouth, who was the Lady of the Bed-chamber in waiting. It does not become me to say the gracious, kind, and flattering manner, with which they (the Royal family) received me. The Queen ordered Lady Weymouth to tie about my neck a small medallion of the King, set round with brilliants. The resemblance, which is very great, and the gracious manner in which it was done, make it invaluable. I cannot enter into a long detail of the commemoration of Handel, performed in Westminster-Abbey: the effect was wonderful, and I had the courage (having a very

easy opportunity of going into the Abbey) of hearing it four times. Yesterday morning, their Majesties, only accompanied by Lady Louisa Clayton, breakfasted "here."

EXTRACT, No. 6.

" Bulstrode, 19th May, 1785.

" On Thursday the 9th of May, I received a note from Lady Weymouth, to tell me the Queen invited me to her Majesty's house; to come at seven o'clock, with the Duchess Dowager of Portland, to hear Mrs. Siddons read "The Provoked Husband." You may believe I obeyed the Royal summons, and was much entertained. It was very desirable to me, as I had no other opportunity of hearing or seeing Mrs. Siddons; and she fully answered my expectations: her person and manner, perfectly agreeable.

" We were received in the great drawing-room by the King and Queen, their five daughters, and Prince Edward. Besides the Royal family, there were only the Duchess Dowager of Portland, her daughter Lady Weymouth, and her beautiful grand-daughter Lady Aylesford, Lord* and Lady† Harcourt, Lady Charlotte Finch, Duke of Montague, and the gentlemen attendant on the King. There were two rows of chairs for the company the length of the room.

" Their Majesties sat in the middle of the first row, with the Princesses on each hand, which filled it.

" The rest of the ladies were seated in a row behind them, and as there was a space between that and the wall, the lords and gentlemen that were admitted stood there. Mrs. Siddons read standing, and had a desk with candles before her: she behaved with great propriety, and read two acts of the Provoked Husband, which was abridged by leaving out Sir Francis and Lady Wronghead's parts, &c. but she introduced John Moody's account of the Journey, and read it admirably. The part of Lord and Lady Townley's reconciliation she worked up finely, and made it very affecting. She also read Queen Katharine's last speech in King Henry VIII. *She was allowed three pauses, to go into the next room and refresh herself for half an hour each time.* After she was dismissed, their Majesties detained the company some time,

* George Simon, second Earl Harcourt, died April, 1809.

† Elizabeth, daughter of George Venables, Lord Vernon.

to talk over what had passed, which was not the least agreeable part of the entertainment. I was so flattered by their most kind reception of me, that I really did not feel the fatigue, notwithstanding I believe it was past twelve before we made our last courtesy; and I cannot say, though that was a very late hour for me, that I suffered from it, and I had tried my strength the week before, by having been at two concerts."

EXTRACT, No. 7.

" *St. James's Place, August 31, 1785.*

" I employ my secretary just to add some new proofs I have received of their Majesties goodness to me. Astley, my servant, whom I sent to Windsor last Thursday, to see what conveniences there might be wanting in the house their Majesties have been so gracious as to give me; when there, received the King's command that I was only to bring myself, niece, clothes, and attendants, as stores of every kind would be laid in for me."

EXTRACT, No. 8.

" *Windsor, Sept. 20, 1785.*

" On Saturday the 3d of this month, one of the Queen's messengers came, and brought me the following letter, from her Majesty, written with her own hand:—

' My dear Mrs. Delany will be glad to hear, that I am
' charged by the King to summon her to her new abode at
' Windsor for Tuesday next, where she will find all the most
' essential parts of the house ready, excepting some little
' trifles, which it will be better for Mrs. Delany to direct her-
' self in person, or by her little deputy, Miss Port. I need
' not, I hope, add, that I shall be extremely glad and happy
' to see so amiable an inhabitant in this our sweet retreat;
' and wish, very sincerely, that my dear Mrs. Delany may
' enjoy every blessing amongst us that her merits deserve.
' That we may long enjoy her amiable company, Amen!
' These are the *true* sentiments of,

' My dear Mrs. Delany's

' Very affectionate Queen,

' CHARLOTTE.

' P. S. I must also beg that Mrs. Delany will choose her
' own time of coming, as will best suit her own convenience.'

“ MY ANSWER.

‘ It is impossible to express how I am overwhelmed with
‘ your Majesty’s excess of goodness to me. I shall, with the
‘ warmest duty and most humble respect, obey a command
‘ that bestows such honour and happiness on your Majesty’s

‘ Most dutiful and most obedient humble servant,

‘ And subject,

‘ MARY DELANY.’

“ I received the Queen’s letter at dinner, and was obliged to answer it instantly with my own hand, without seeing a letter I wrote. I thank God I had strength enough to obey the gracious summons on the day appointed. I arrived here about eight o’clock in the evening, and found his Majesty in the house ready to receive me. I threw myself at his feet, indeed unable to utter a word; he raised and saluted me, and said he meant not to stay longer than to desire I would order every thing that could make the house comfortable and agreeable to me, and then retired.

“ Truly I found nothing wanting, as it is as pleasant and commodious as I could wish it to be, with a very pretty garden, which joins to that of the Queen’s Lodge. The next morning her Majesty sent one of her ladies to know how I had rested, and how I was in health, and whether her coming would not be troublesome? You may be sure I accepted the honour, and she came about two o’clock. I was *lame*, and could not go down, as I ought to have done, to the door; but her Majesty came up stairs, and I received *her on my knees*. Our meeting was mutually affecting; she well knew the value of what I had lost, and it was some time after we were seated (for she alway makes me sit down) before we could either of us speak. It is impossible for me to do justice to her great condescension and tenderness, which were almost equal to what I had lost. She repeated, in the strongest terms, her wish, and the King’s, that I should be as easy and as happy as they could possibly make me; that they waved all ceremony, and desired to come to me like *friends*. The Queen delivered me a paper from the King, which contained the first quarter of £300. per annum, which his Majesty allows me out of his privy purse.

“ Their Majesties have drank tea with me five times, and the Princesses three. They generally stay two hours or longer. In short, I have either seen or heard from them every day. I have not yet been at the Queen’s Lodge, though they have expressed an impatience for me to come but I

have still so sad a drawback upon my spirits, that I must decline the honour till I am better able to enjoy it; as they have the goodness not to press me.

“ Their visits here are paid in the most quiet private manner, like those of the most consoling and interested friends; so that I may *truly* say, they are a Royal cordial, and I see very few people besides. They are very condescending in their notice of my neice, and think her a fine girl. She is delighted, as is very natural, with all the joys of the place. I have been three times at the King’s private chapel at early prayers, eight o’clock, where the Royal family constantly attend, whilst I am conveyed in a very elegant new chair home, which the King has made me a present of for that purpose.

“ As to my health, it is surprisingly good considering the sufferings of my agitated spirits; and that I was hardly recovered, when I came, of a putrid sore throat and fever. How thankful ought I to be to Providence for the wonderful blessings I have received! How ungrateful must I be, not to endeavour to resign those withdrawn from me as I ought to do! It is a cordial comfort to me to receive a good account from you of your health and prosperity, and the rest of my dear friends who have so kindly felt for me. I cannot dictate a word more, but believe me, unalterably and affectionately yours,

“ M. DELANY,”

EXTRACT, No. 9.

“ *St. Alban’s-street, Windsor, Nov. 9, 1785.*

“ I have been several evenings at the Queen’s Lodge, with no other company but their own most lovely family. They sit round a large table, on which are books, work, pencils, and paper. The Queen has the goodness to make me sit down next to her, and delights me with her conversation, which is informing, elegant, and pleasing beyond description, whilst the younger part of the family are drawing and working, &c. the beautiful babe Princess Amelia, bearing her part in the entertainment; sometimes in one of her sisters’ laps; sometimes playing with the King on the carpet; which, altogether, exhibits such a delightful scene, as would require an Addison’s pen, or a Vandyke’s pencil, to do justice to. In the next room is the band of music, who play from eight o’clock till ten. The King generally directs them what pieces of music to play, chiefly Handel’s. Here I must stop, and return to my house. Mr. Dewes, from Wellsbourn, came

here on the 25th of October; on the 28th their Majesties, five Princesses, and the youngest Princes, came at seven o'clock in the evening, to drink tea with me. All the Princesses and Princes had a commerce table. Miss Emily Clayton, daughter to Lady Louisa Clayton, and Miss Port, did the honours of it.

"It gave me a pleasing opportunity of introducing Mr. Dewes to their Majesties; the King took gracious notice of him, and having heard that his youngest brother, Mr. John Dewes, wished to take the name of Granville, said to Mr. Dewes, that he desired he might, from that time, be called by that name, and gave orders that his sign-manual should be prepared for that purpose, which has accordingly been done. The want of franks cuts me short: do me justice as usual, to all dear friends, and believe me ever affectionately yours,
"M. DELANY."

EXTRACT, No. 10.

"Windsor, July 3, 1786.

"The constant course of my living at present, from which I vary very little, is as follows: I seldom miss going to early prayers at the King's chapel, at eight o'clock, where I never fail of seeing Their Majesties and all the Royal Family. The common way of going up to the chapel is through the great entrance into the castle, which is a large room with stone pillars, at the corner of which is a narrow winding staircase, which leads to the chapel; but their Majesties, with their usual goodness and indulgence, have ordered that I should be admitted through the great stair-case, which is a very easy ascent. When the chapel is over, all the congregation make a line in the great portico till their Majesties have passed; for they always walk to the chapel and back again, and speak to every body of consequence as they pass: indeed, it is a delightful sight to see so much beauty, dignity, and condescension, united, as they are in the Royal Family. I come home to breakfast generally about nine o'clock: if I and the weather are well enough, I take the air for two hours. The rest of the morning is devoted to business, and the company of my particular friends. I admit no formal visitors, as I really have not time or spirits for it, and every body here is very civil and very considerate. My afternoons I keep entirely to myself, that I may have no interruption whenever my Royal neighbours condescend to visit me: their usual time of coming is between six and seven o'clock, and generally stay

till between eight and nine. They always drink tea here, and my niece has the honour of dealing it about to all the Royal Family, as they will not suffer me to do it, (though it is my place,) the Queen always placing me upon the sofa by her, and the King, when he sits down, which is seldom, sits next the sofa. Indeed their visits are not limited to the afternoons, for their Majesties often call on me in a morning, and take me as they find me, not suffering any body to give me notice of their being come.

“Great as my awe is, their Majesties have such sweetness of manners that it takes off painful sensation.

“I went to town at the anniversary of the Abbey music: the King gave me and Miss Port tickets to go; though I suspected my own ability in being able to make use of them, I could not deprive Miss Port of the opportunity of going, but she was (I may say, happily) prevented, by falling ill of the measles, which, I thank God, she has passed through as well as can be wished. I enjoyed one performance of the music, and we returned to Windsor on the 16th of June.

“An event has taken place lately which gives me great satisfaction: I am sure you are acquainted with the novel entitled *Cecilia*, much admired for its good sense, variety of character, delicacy of sentiment, &c. &c. there is nothing good, and amiable, and agreeable, mentioned in the book, that is not possessed by the author of it, Miss Burney: I have been acquainted with her now three years: her extreme diffidence of herself, notwithstanding her great genius, and the applause she has met with, adds lustre to all her excellencies, and all improve on acquaintance. In the course of this last year, she has been so good as to pass a few weeks with me at Windsor, which gave the Queen an opportunity of seeing and talking with her, which her Majesty was so gracious as to admit of.

“One of the principal ladies that attend the Queen’s person, as dresser, is going to retire into her own country, being in too bad a state of health to continue her honourable and delightful employment, for such it must be near such a Queen; and Miss Burney is to be the happy successor, chosen by the Queen without any particular recommendation from any body. I believe she comes into waiting next week.

“I had the pleasure, before I came out of town, of seeing Governor Hamilton in good health and spirits. He and my young niece hold a droll correspondence: he and I sometimes quarrel about his talking of her beauty to her face. She is really pretty, and I trust will be good and agreeable. The

way to have her so, is to keep her out of the line of vanity. I think I have got H. H. in pretty good order now. Continue your usual good offices between me and your good friends in Ireland, and

“ Believe me ever yours

“ most affectionately,

“ M. DELANY.”

EXTRACT, No. 11.

“ Windsor, 24th Sept. 1786.

“ I am sure you must be very sensible how thankful I am to Providence for the late wonderful escape of His Majesty from the stroke of assassination: indeed, the horror that there was a possibility that such an attempt would be made, shocked me so much at first, that I could hardly enjoy the blessing of such a preservation.

“ The King would not suffer any body to inform the Queen of that event, till he could shew himself in person to her. He returned to Windsor as soon as the council was over. When His Majesty entered the Queen’s dressing-room, he found her with the two eldest Princesses; and entering, in an animated manner, said, “ Here I am, safe and well!” The Queen suspected from his saying, that some accident had happened; on which he informed her of the whole affair.

“ The Queen stood struck and motionless for some time, till the Princesses burst into tears, in which she immediately found relief by joining with them.

“ Joy soon succeeded this agitation of mind, on the assurance that the person was insane that had the boldness to make the attack, which took off all aggravating suspicion; and it has been the means of shewing the whole kingdom, that the King has the hearts of his subjects. I must tell you a particular gracious attention to me on the occasion:

“ Their Majesties sent immediately to my house, to give orders I should not be told of it till the next morning, for fear the agitation should give me a bad night. Dowager Lady Spencer was in the house with me, and went with me to early prayers, next morning, at eight o’clock; and after chapel was over, she separated herself from me, and had a long conference with the King and Queen, as they stopped to speak to her on our coming out of chapel. When we returned to breakfast, I taxed her with having robbed me of an opportunity of hearing what their Majesties said to her, by standing at such a distance. She told me, it was a secret;

but she had now their permission to tell me what it was, and then informed me of the whole affair.

“ I was commanded in the evening to attend them at the Lodge, where I spent the evening; the happiness of being with them, not a little increased by seeing the fulness of joy that appeared in every countenance. This important affair has taken up so much of my paper, as well as my thoughts, that I can add but little more to it. Soon after this, Princess Elizabeth’s illness cast a damp on all this joy; but I thank God she is now restored to that health which every one who knows her must wish on her own account (as well as many others,) to possess. She is still delicate, and does not attend them at the Drawing-room when they go to town. Last Friday evening she had the goodness to permit me and Miss Port to spend the evening with her: nothing can be more amiable or more friendly than she is.”

EXTRACT, No. 12.

“ *December 25, 1786.*

“ We were appointed to dine every day at Miss Burney’s table, at the Lodge, which we did almost every day. It is very magnificent, and the society very agreeable—about eight or ten persons, belonging to their Majesties. Coffee was ready about six o’clock, which was immediately after dinner: about seven the King generally walked into the room, addressing every body with the most delightful condescension; and after that, commanded me and Mrs. Smelt to follow him into the Queen’s apartment, where we drank tea, and stayed till near ten o’clock. It is impossible to describe the pleasure and satisfaction such a society bestowed.

Princess Elizabeth, who, I thank God, is now perfectly restored to health, was not well enough at that time to make one of that society, so that her sisters took their turns of being with her.”

EXTRACT, No. 13.

“ *Windsor, August 11, 1787.*

“ At this time of the year the evenings are devoted by them to the Terrace till eight o’clock, when they return to the Lodge to their tea and concert of music: happy are those who are admitted to that circle! The Queen has had the goodness to command me to come to the Lodge whenever it is quite easy to me to do it, without sending particularly for

me, lest it should embarrass me to refuse that honour; so that most evenings, at half-an-hour past seven, I go to Miss Burney's apartment, and when the Royal Family return from the Terrace, the King, or one of the Princesses (generally the youngest, Princess Amelia, just four years old) come into the room, take me by the hand, and lead me into the drawing-room, where there is a chair ready for me by the Queen's left hand: the three eldest Princesses sit round the table, and the Ladies in Waiting, Lady Charlotte Finch and Lady Elizabeth Waldegrave. A vacant chair is left for the King, whenever he pleases to sit down in it. Every one is employed with pencil, needle, or knotting. Between the pieces of music the conversation is easy and pleasant: for an hour before the conclusion of the whole, the King plays at backgammon with one of his equerries, and I am generally dismissed; I then go to Miss Burney's room again, where Miss Port generally spends the evenings that I am at the Lodge, and has an opportunity of being in very good company there. It will not become me to commend her as much as I believe others do, and I hope she will deserve the approbation she has hitherto met with."

"August 13th, 1787.

"The entertainment at the Castle, yesterday, was very superb indeed: there was above a hundred people of the first rank, Ministers of State, and foreigners, invited to come to the Castle. At seven o'clock, and after the drawing-room was over, and all compliments paid and received on the day, the company were conducted into the music-room, where there was a very fine concert, chiefly of Mr. Handel's music, and most exquisitely performed. When that was over, which was about twelve o'clock, there was a supper prepared in St. George's Hall, which for magnificence exceeded every thing that had been done before. The company were not all dispersed till two o'clock; and are invited again to the same entertainment on Thursday, which is the Duke of York's birth-day. The younger part of the company are in hopes of a ball. I went again yesterday evening to Miss Burney's apartment, and delighted myself with looking out of the window, which almost fronts the Castle-gate; whilst Miss Burney and Miss Port went on the Terrace, where every body who were not of consequence to be invited to the Castle walked; some sighing that they were not within the walls with the *grand monde*, whilst others were blessing themselves with enjoying the fine air of Windsor, the evening being very fine."

EXTRACT, No. 14.

“ *October, 1787.*

“ I left Mrs. Delany in perfect health; and the day before, cut the two profiles. I send you the largest, much the likest, and so much so, the Queen desired one. * *

* * * * *

“ One little anecdote of the Queen, struck me as a stronger instance of her real tender feeling towards our dear old friend, than all her bounties and honour. As soon as the Duchess of Portland died, Mrs. Delany got into a chaise to go to her own house; the Duke followed her begging to know what she would accept of. Mrs. Delany recollected a bird which the Duchess always fed, and kept in her own room; desired to have it, and felt for it as you may suppose. In a few days she got a bad fever, and the bird died; but for some hours she was too ill even to recollect her bird. The Queen had one of the same sort which she valued extremely, (a weaver bird,) she took it with her own hands, and while Mrs. Delany slept, had the cage brought out, and put her own bird into it, charging every one not to let it go so near Mrs. Delany, as that she could perceive the change, till she was well enough recovered to bear the loss of her first favourite. This requires no comment, as it speaks strongly for itself.”

EXTRACT, No. 15.

“ *London, St. James's Place, 18th Jan. 1788.*

“ The day before I intended to leave Windsor, when Mary Anne Port and I were set down to our little dinner, (one simple dish of veal-collops,) without any notice, the Queen walked into the dining-room, and said, I must not be angry with my servant; for she would come in, and that my dinner smelt so well, she would partake of it with me. I was both delighted and confused with this honour conferred upon me. Miss Port very readily resigned her place, and became our attendant. The Queen honoured my humble board, not only by partaking of it, (which she did to make me go on with *my dinner*,) but commended it very much. Soon after the clock struck four, her Majesty said she must resign her place; for she came to see me on purpose to prevent my venturing out in the evening, lest I should catch cold before my journey.”

This is the last of her very interesting letters: the amiable old gentlewoman dying, when she had nearly completed her eighty-eighth year.

The following interesting narrative is from the memoirs of the late George Hardinge, Esq. one of the Welsh Judges, and well known for his classical acquirements and general literary attainments. *It is of himself he speaks:* and his interview with the late King took place at Windsor in the summer of 1789:—

“ I arrived at the Queen’s Lodge at twelve; and was carried to the Equerries’ room. Colonel Digby came to me, civil and gentlemanlike. He chatted with me for half-an-hour, and, when he left me, said, ‘ He would let the King know, through General Harcourt, that I was there.’ In a few minutes I was gallanted up stairs into Madame Schwellenbergen’s dining-apartment. There I found General Harcourt, who is a very agreeable man. He told me that when the King (who was going to the Castle to receive the address of the Clergy,) should come out of his apartment, he would let him know, and receive his commands.

“ In a quarter of an hour two Royal coaches came to the door, and an equerry handed the Queen into the first. The King followed her, apparently without a thought of poor me. Princess Royal and Augusta followed: this filled the first coach. No. 2 had Princess Elizabeth and a bedchamber-woman. Then a-foot, my friends Digby and Harcourt. When they were flown, the porter came to me, and said, ‘ General Harcourt had named me to the King, but that his Majesty, being in a great hurry, had said nothing. That if I pleased, I might wait till his Majesty’s return,’ which the porter said would be in an hour and a half. This I thought was as much as to say, ‘ If you go you will not be missed.’ In half an hour Mrs. Schwellenbergen’s German footman came to lay the cloth, and produced the dining apparatus. For want of occupation, I formed an acquaintance with him, and learned that Madame Schwellenbergen sat at the head of the table; the Misses [Burney and Planta] right and left of her, and any visitor at the bottom. The room is pretty enough and clean, but furnished with a cheap kind of paper, and linen curtains. Observing a large piece of German bread,*

* The genuine German black bread is made of rye, i. e. *Rogge*, and the bread is called ‘ *Rogge-brod.*’ It consists of the entire corn, no bran being taken out. It is unleavened; made in the form of bricks, almost as heavy, and remarkably nutritious. The horses, in travelling, feed on the same diet. The Editor, when he was in Germany, preferred this bread to the best wheaten.

I fell to, and eat a pound of it. The hour and a half having expired, the Regals returned; and then I heard the Queen most condescendingly say, 'Do find out Mr. Hardinge, and beg of him to come and see us.'

"Her butler, out of livery, came in to me, and desired me to follow him. I went through a very handsome apartment into another, most beautifully fitted up, with a ceiling of the modern work, 'done,' as the King told me, 'in a week.' Into this room I was shut; and found in it, standing by the fire, without any form, the King, Queen, three Princesses, and this bedchamber-woman, whoever she was, for I have not made her out, but liked her very much (because she seemed to like *me*.) It is impossible for words to express the kind and companionable good humour of the whole party. I almost forgot that any one of them was my superior. The King looked 15 years younger, and much better in the face, though as red as ever. He said a number of excellent things, and in the most natural way. The Queen, with amazing address and cleverness, gave a turn to the conversation, and mixed in it just at the right places. You will not believe me when I tell you, that I passed half an hour, at least, in the room.

"The Princesses looked, as they always do, the pink of good-humour. The Princess Royal had a very fine colour; the two others were pale. The King did a very odd thing by the Princess Royal; but I loved him for it. He said, 'he would ask *me*, as a man of taste, what I thought of the ceiling;' and then called upon the Princess Royal to explain the allegorical figures on the ceiling, which she did, blushing a little at first in the sweetest manner, with distinct voice and great propriety of emphasis. This one trait would at once demonstrate how very kind they were. The King began by asking me, 'how I could run away from London, and give up my fees?' I told him that I *never* minded fees, but *less* when they interfered with my sense of duty to him. The Queen then came up to me, and said, 'You have less merit in the visit, because a little bird has told me that you are on your way to your circuit.' This produced the topic of my *Circuit*; and the King said, 'that he understood Moysey to be a good man in domestic life.'

"We went slap-dash into politics, Queen and all. The King laughed heartily at the *Rats*, by that name, and said they were the boldest Rats he ever knew, for that all the calculation was against them. '*Even ***** said, it was probable I should recover; not that I am recovered, according*

to some of them. And yet I have read the last report of the physicians, which is a tolerably good proof that I am well. By the way, your uncle* is considerably better, and I flatter myself, that *my* getting well has done him good.' I then said, 'that I had left him in some alarm, how he was to wear the Windsor uniform with a tie-wig over it, from the fear that he should be mistaken for an old General that had fought at the battle of Dettingen.' The Queen said, '*Oh! I plead guilty to that; and I see you enjoy it.*'—'I,' said Hardinge, '*will enjoy it, for though he is very good-natured, he loves a little innocent mischief.*' The King then told me the whole story of his conference with Pitt; commended the House of Commons, and said, 'his illness had in the end been a perfect bliss only to him, as proving to him how nobly the people would support him when he was confined.' This tempted me to say, that 'it was no political debate, but the contest between generous humanity and mean cruelty, and it interested human nature.' The King seemed very much pleased with this idea, and worked upon it. I commended the conduct of the Bishops; and it made them laugh! Said the King, 'You mean to commend it as a *wonder!*' He talked over Lord North and the Duke of Portland. He talked of the Chancellor, of Loughborough, and even of Mr. Baron Hotham; and said, 'You are almost the *only man who loves the land for its own sake.*' Then we talked of Mrs. Siddons, Jordan, &c.; and the Queen said, 'Siddons was going to Germany, to make the English find out, by her absence, that she was good for something.' Then we flew to Handel; after which the King made me a most gracious bow, and said, 'I am going to my dinner.' I was near the door, made a low bow to the females, and departed."

"The King's munificence was noble as it was discriminating. During his illness in 1789, a committee was appointed to examine the state of the privy purse. When, out of an income of £60,000 per annum, it was found that His Majesty never gave away less than £14,000 a year in *charity!*"

* Earl Camden.

CHAPTER XXII.

FOURTH EPOCH.—1791 TO 1801.

Anti-Gallican Politics.—Anecdotes of the Right Hon. Mr. Pitt, W. A. Miles, and Lewis Goldsmith.—Lamentable Suicide.—French Emigrants.—Mercantile Avarice.—Change of Fortunes.—A Merciless Creditor.—Retributive Justice.—Infamous Calumnies detected and refuted.—Lord Hutchinson, and Sir Levet Hansen.—Arrival of the Stadtholder.—Seditious movements.—Mutiny.—Insurrection.—George III. and Cardinal YORK.

THIS awful and stormy epoch of the life and reign of George III. abounds with *historical* matter of the highest possible interest to British readers: it is not, however, equally rich in *new* materials developing his private life.

As the French Revolution, proceeding in its whole course, and aiming at the establishment of a limited monarchy founded upon the *sovereignty of the people*, afforded signs of stability; certain individuals, *near the throne*, laboured but too successfully to fill the mind of George III. with mistrust of the views of that immense portion of his own subjects who hailed its course with enthusiastic delight, of whom, the leading members formed themselves into fraternal and corresponding societies. As their feelings were strongly excited, in their letters and addresses those persons expressed themselves in warm language; of which those statesmen laboured to avail themselves, to convince their Sovereign, that the only way to prevent a revolution in Great Britain was to subvert the popular government in France!

Amongst the continental Sovereigns, the most inveterate foe to Gallic freedom, was the accom-



Mr. Warren Hastings.



Admiral Earl Nelson.



Right Hon. Wm Pitt.



Mr. Tierney.



Lord Castlereagh.

W. D. & A. H. Robinson sc.

plished but profligate monarch, Gustavus III. the polished tyrant of Sweden. Although, at an early period, the Empress Catharine appeared to frown upon the new school of liberty and its professors, she had too much wisdom to embark seriously in the contest. All she aimed at was, the quiet subversion of Poland; and marking the horror with which that false, canting hypocrite, Gustavus, viewed the progress of the French cause, she encouraged that vain and mercenary Prince to take the lead as the avenger and restorer of the Bourbons; giving him a little money, and abundance of fine words. Scarcely two years had passed since those two Sovereigns had abused each other in the coarsest style; and in the year 1791, the Russian minister was allowed to term the Royal Swede, "*the true and chosen knight of his immortal mistress!*"

When the French refugee Princes, flying from the throne, and deserting their King to his fate, had fixed themselves on the frontiers of Germany, and, traitor-like, began to raise up enemies against the country they had wronged and betrayed, Gustavus the Third presented himself as their rallying point. And it was rumoured in Germany, suspected in France, and believed in Sweden, that the *Elector of Hanover* stood in secret connection with the conspirators of *Pilnitz*.

Amongst the persons who arraigned the conduct of George III. who accused him of duplicity of the blackest kind, who asserted that he had entered into a secret league against French liberty, long before he threw off the mask, was the late WILLIAM AUGUSTUS MILES, a gentleman eminent for the extent and accuracy of his political knowledge, for the strength and elegance of his pen, the bold constitutional spirit of his writings, and who was the friend and *protégé* of the premier Mr. PITT. The celebrated author of the '*Crimes of Cabinets*,' (Mr. Lewis Goldsmith,) asserted the same facts; and

no one has ever yet heard of that gentleman retracting any thing he had advanced as an historical fact, in that proscribed volume.

This opinion was widely circulated amongst the friends of liberty in England, who were indignant at the conduct of Mr. PITT, in suffering Poland to be divided amongst '*the crowned ruffians*,' as those coalesced sovereigns were appropriately termed, by whom that vile object had been accomplished.

Hence, whilst the King was instructed by his great officers of state, that the germ of a revolution at home was already begun by certain leading democrats; millions of his people, the most active and intelligent, were jealous of his conduct, and filled with an inveterate belief that he was secretly leagued with the despots of Germany, and determined, at every risk, to restore the fallen throne of the Bourbons.

The scouts from either camp, if the simile may be allowed, carried to their respective head-quarters, intelligence admirably calculated to widen the breach, and push matters to extremities. The Court-Tories had the effrontery to assert that '*the people*' had nothing to do with the laws but *to obey* them; and some of those who styled themselves *the friends of the people*, with equal absurdity, pretended *the people* had nothing to do with the laws but *to enact* them! Those who profited by existing abuses, loudly decried every thing resembling *innovation*; and amongst the democratic leaders, some there were, whose only superiority over the known and avowed corruptionist was, their talents.

The Editor has no confidence in the truth of George III. (in his capacity as Elector of Hanover) having been a party in the execrable treaty of Pilnitz; nor in his asserted secret determination to make war on France, prior to his British Cabinet shewing symptoms of hostility. In those instances

he conceives that both Mr. MILES and Mr. GOLD-SMITH were in error. It was natural for the emigrant princes and nobles to promulgate such opinions. But as France entirely subdued every state, and rendered tributary, or dethroned, every prince connected with those incipient acts of warfare which preceded the Austrian and Prussian invasion of their country; if any records had existed of criminating George III. they would have been exhibited; and the absence of such proof, and not a puerile wish to embellish the character of this Monarch at the expense of truth, induces the Editor to dismiss the imputation as being unjust and unfounded. But whilst he conscientiously exonerates the late King from those imputations, he has neither the inclination nor the power to prove that the war of 1794 was not a war of aggression on the side of Great Britain, and that its real and secret object was essentially different from that which was publicly assigned.

The limits of this memoir prevents the Editor giving any detail of the ruinous wars waged against republican or imperial France: all he can do is honestly and candidly to endeavour to trace them to their real source, and there too he would willingly, were he able, honourably and with sincerity, acquit the late King of the charges urged against him by the late Mr. Miles, in his animated and elegant letters to the Editor in 1809. In these epistles, that high-spirited and fearless gentleman thus expressed himself relative to the origin of the war of 1794:—" Mr. PITT, to my personal know-
 " ledge, had made up his mind to the observance
 " of an armed neutrality, not meaning to interfere
 " with the internal affairs of France, *but the King*
 " *was personally bent on war*; in which project the
 " ———, who might rather be said to reign than
 " the King, was highly instrumental in accelerating
 " that impolitic and ruinous measure. The great

“ proprietors of boroughs, *Whigs* and *Tories*, were
 “ alarmed at the republican spirit which obtained,
 “ and were determined on war. Mr. Pitt was am-
 “ bitious; the love of power was deeper rooted in
 “ his mind, than attachment to those principles by
 “ which he had elevated his fame as a states-
 “ man; and he had a brother to provide for who,
 “ was a peer, a***** indigent and profuse. Mr. PITT
 “ *had to chuse between retiring from office, or mak-*
 “ *ing war on France: he had no party on which he*
 “ *could depend for support, and he submitted to the*
 “ *expedient that was required.*”* As far as re-
 spect the strong aversion of Mr. PITT to com-
 mence war, the Rev. Mr. INGRAM COBBIN, in
 his ‘*Georgiana*,’ p. 29, affords the following strong
 corroboration:—

“ The anecdote I am about to introduce, rela-
 tive to the origin of our warfare with France, is an-
 other convincing proof of his late Majesty’s deci-
 sion of character. On this important subject his
 Majesty’s ministers were divided in opinion. Mr.
 PITT, *in the first instance, was decidedly against the*
declaration of hostilities; and finding his MAJESTY
determined for the WAR, he tendered his resignation,
and remained at least several hours an ex-minister.
 Mr. PITT, however, finding his Majesty inflexible,
 and being urged by his associates in administra-
 tion, resumed his office, with the full approbation
 of his Majesty. This transaction occurred in this

* Mr. MILES was promised a diplomatic situation (for which he was eminently qualified) by Mr. PITT. When the latter yielded up his judgment to save his place and retain his power, Mr. MILES either gave up the minister, or the minister cut with him. As some compensation, and a very poor one it was, the talents, the services, and the hopes of Mr. Miles, considered,—Mr. Pitt obtained a pension of £500. per annum for his quon-
 dam friend and confidant; which he accepted, without relinquish-
 ing his principles, nor was the pension taken from him after the
 death of his former friend and patron, Mr. PITT.

town, and was communicated to a friend of mine on the day of its occurrence, by the late Earl of Chesterfield. That thinking and reflecting men have had, and still have, different opinions on the origin and prosecution of the war, cannot be denied.

“*Dr. Cracknell.*”

These testimonials certainly have a tendency to throw a tremendous weight of responsibility on the late King, and, but for the absence of that proof mentioned by the EDITOR, would go far to countenance the assertions of Messrs. Miles and Goldsmith, as respected the machinations carried on by the emigrant princes at *Coblentz* and *Pilnitz*.

Having thus laid before his readers the best materials in his power, to enable them to form their own opinion, he proceeds with the personal and private history of the late King,

The late King passed the year 1791 in his usual rational and tranquil manner. A fixed aversion to a state-marriage having manifested itself on the part of the Heir-apparent, his next brother Frederick, who had been created Duke of York, was induced to enter into that sacred bond with a Prussian Princess; the marriage ceremony was performed at St. James's, at seven o'clock in the evening of the 23d of November, with the highest degree of pomp; and if the union of this Royal couple had led to the wished-for result, it is probable that unhappy marriage would never have taken place between the Prince of Wales and his fair and beautiful first cousin, Caroline of Brunswick; the meditated dissolution of which, by a bill of PAINS and PENALTIES, has given so deep and general a feeling of disgust throughout the British Nation.

An unfortunate gentleman, named SUTHERLAND, who had held an ostensible post under government, probably in the island of Minorca, had, or supposed he had, claims upon the Crown, in which he was thwarted by official injustice. In his efforts to

obtain his right, he applied to his Sovereign; by whom the claims were referred back to those who had already denied, or withheld, redress. Unable to endure the sight of his family gradually sinking into utter poverty, whom he loved dearer than life, and for whom he had heretofore procured the elegancies of polished society; the desperate and frantic idea struck the unhappy man, that if he deprived himself of life in the presence of the KING, whose protection he had in vain implored, it might awaken sensations of pity or remorse, and perhaps obtain, from motives of charity, that support for his family which the suppliant contended had been unjustly withheld. With a frantic mind, and a desperate hand, he waited the King's coming out in his chariot, from the garden-gate at St. James's, and, waving his arm to attract the Sovereign's eye, instantly fired a pistol into his own bosom, and expired! The King, shocked at the act he had witnessed, stopped his pace, and humanely ordered the rash man to be taken care of, but he was already dead. The amiable character of the suicide, and the sufferings of his family, caused many severe reflections; but wherever the injustice rested, it could not have been with the King, who was probably most erroneously censured by many, who believed that the King might have saved the unhappy gentleman.

Terrified by the violence of a long oppressed, and greatly insulted population, the nobles, priests, and courtiers, of France, fled towards Germany, Holland, Italy,—but principally to England. Upwards of *five thousand* clergymen were relieved, if not supported, by Government; and upwards of two thousand of the nobility, gentry, or of inferior classes. By the priests, there occurred little additional good or harm; but the nobles and gentry, having generally received the best of education, and very many of them having attained a high degree of proficiency

in every elevated walk of the sciences and the fine arts, they were enabled to earn their bread honourably, by converting the knowledge acquired in their youth, to the means of subsistence, when an adverse turn of the wheel of fortune had cast them forth with no other claims to importance than what they could derive from their virtues and their talents. Many of these illustrious strangers exhibited a becoming and dignified humility, conforming to their new situations with admirable philosophy; and by this dispersion of the nobles and gentlemen of France, a new impulse was given to practical improvements in the arts and sciences wherever they settled themselves. A certain Marquis, who, like too many of the privileged order nearer home, had neglected every acquirement of the scientific or mental cast, found himself reduced to such misery in Hamburg, that he went to his former cook, and, appealing to his gratitude and compassion, solicited to be entertained as—*his servant*.

Taking advantage of the terrible events which drenched the streets of Paris in the blood of princes and nobles, too many merchants, particularly of Rotterdam and London, basely availing themselves of the absence of legal proofs, or the death of witnesses, concealed the receipt of money, plate, jewels, and valuable securities of all kinds, to immense amounts; so that when an heir escaped the wreck of his family, and applied for property that he understood had been deposited for his use and benefit, he met with denial; and frequently threats were dealt out, if the ruined orphan dared even to hint at a fraud having been committed. By this vile course, one stupendous fortune, at least, was accumulated, that was *strangely* disposed of. Time is a tell-tale, and the result will shew how long that mountain of wealth, the basis of which is said to rest upon perfidy and avarice, shall endure.

George III. took a lively interest in the prepara-

tion and completion of a pair of the most superb and costly globes, made by Mr. DUDLEY ADAMS, which were ever seen in Great Britain: they formed a part of the royal presents transmitted from George III. by Lord Macartney, to the Emperor of China. The wise and cautious government of China, had no doubt heard how humbly and civilly the first European merchants had behaved on their arrival on the coasts of India, till, encroaching step by step, they became invaders and conquerors, and, overturning kingdoms and empires, in the course of time became masters of India.* Perhaps the day is not far distant when an attempt may be made to *extract* some of the many ship-loads of silver which have been sent from this kingdom to—*China!*

Before Insolvent Debtors' Acts were passed by the British parliament, a merciless creditor had the power by '*paying the groats,*' to incarcerate for life the father of a family. In no other kingdom in Europe could so atrocious a crime be inflicted with the sanction of law: its long continuance was disgraceful to the former reigns, as its abolition in that of George the Third, was honourable to his fame,† and consistent with the known humanity of his disposition.

* The contracted limits of this Memoir prevents the Editor going into the long protracted trial of Warren Hastings, the Ex-Governor of India.—With the *motive* of those distinguished members of the opposition, the most offensive liberties have been taken by writers, who condemn the managers because the prisoner was acquitted. That the crimes were committed for which Mr. Hastings stood impeached, there is no just ground to doubt; but still, as the Ex-Governor did no more than fulfil the *intentions* of his employers, it would have been unjust to have condemned him. The *system* formed the crime, and not the agent. Many foreign lawyers of great eminence, laugh at '*hereditary judges,*' and ask, why have we not *hereditary* poets, astronomers, and philosophers!

† The sad story of a farmer who had been arrested by some vindictive wretch, and confined many years, till George III. on his visit to Dorchester, humanely released him, is not correctly given,

During the last two years the public mind was greatly agitated by discussions growing out of the French Revolution, and parliamentary grievances: Mr. MILES insisted that George III. might, if he had pleased, have saved the life of Louis the XVI. but the war being resolved upon, they would not hear Mons. Chauvelin, but madly hurried on to the commencement of hostilities.*

The present agitated and very perilous state of the nation, is the best illustration of the result of the war-system, whose evils are not yet expended, nor the flood of poverty and misery arrived at its utmost height.

The year 1794, the first of the Anti-Gallican war, was marked by two great events: Lord HOWE's naval victory, and the ACQUITTAL of Mess. HARDY, HORNE TOOKE, THELWALL, and others; the former event was full of glory, but the latter triumph was that of the CONSTITUTION, incomparably the most valuable of the two, for if the doctrine inculcated by the Attorney-General (Sir JOHN SCOTT) had been sanctioned by the Jury, there had probably been seen *an end* of British freedom, or the *commencement* of a sanguinary revolution.

During the years 1794 and 5, two events, of a very contrary tendency, occurred in the King's family: the first was the *legal* dissolution of the marriage

as to its conclusion, in 'George III. his Court, and Family.' PITFIELD, the prisoner, *did not* return to his family: they were dispersed, or had died, during his long captivity. Most of his former friends and acquaintance were also dead; and being, as it were, a houseless stranger, 'a waif on the world's wide common,' he solicited the governor to continue him in his employ as a door-keeper; a place he held in the New Prison, in 1806, where the Editor saw and conversed with him. He appeared to be a very decent, well-behaved man, and had uniformly borne a respectable character.

* A reference to the Annual Registers will afford the reader an opportunity of seeing the best arguments used by the leading characters, for, and against, the war.

of Prince Augustus Frederick, Duke of Sussex, who had publicly wedded Lady AUGUSTA MURRAY, first in Italy, and next, by public banns, at St. George's, Hanover-square. The King's tenacity regarding the marriage of his numerous children, would have been much more culpable, were it not, that in yielding, to a demi-barbarous policy, his passion for Lady Sarah Lennox, he had evinced the sincerity of his belief, that the welfare of the state required the sacrifice. It was, however, an enormous breach of morality, and the present state of the succession to the throne, and the black clouds which are fast accumulating in that elevated quarter, prove that Providence, immutable in his decrees, has not slumbered, nor permitted so great a moral evil to fail producing its appropriate punishment.

The second great domestic event in the King's family, was the marriage of the Prince of Wales (George IV.) to Caroline, Princess of Brunswick, *his first cousin*, which took place on the 8th of April, 1795.—This unhappy match was made up by the late King; and as far as it was possible for one person to select a wife calculated to render another happy, this was a choice that promised the happiest results to the Prince and Princess.

The Editor being in possession of evidence which strikes at the root of the attempts which have been made to ruin the character of the Princess, conceives it to be a moral duty, at this awful crisis, (*August, 1820,*) to lay it before the public:

When he was travelling on the continent, in 1808, after the first attempt against the life and honour of the Queen had been *foiled*, he conversed with several gentlemen, natives of Germany, who had visited the Court of Brunswick during the youth of this calumniated Princess, and they, one and all, represented her as the pride of the Dukedom, the fairest flower of the Court, and the idol of the citizens and peasants. Not a single allusion met his ear, of those



Caroline R

open and notorious traits of *precocious lewdness*, attached by the *pen* of the Biographer. And Lieutenant-General Sir LEVET HANSEN, (whose name has so frequently occurred in this Memoir,) told the Editor, that he had visited her father's court, and been introduced to the Princess, when she was in the full blossom of youthful charms, and that her disposition and manners were as amiable, as her personal beauty and accomplishments, were transcendantly brilliant.

Sir LEVET HANSEN stated, that he was very intimate with a nobleman who quitted Brunswick in 1794, and went to reside at ERLANGEN, who had been regularly admitted to her parents' private circle of friends, and an eye-witness of the conduct of the Princess Caroline from her childhood to her marriage; and his description of her mind and her manners was decisively that of a modest and lovely Princess.

It was the Editor's intention to have inserted the whole of Sir LEVET HANSEN's letters relative to this interesting subject: a small extract is all that the limits of this work will admit, viz.—

“I have already told Captain Porter* the conversation I had with Lord HUTCHINSON, relative to the extraordinary message sent to his Lordship by the King's† private secretary,‡ admonishing him to abstain from speaking irreverently of ‘*His Majesty's very good friends*,’ the *Right Honourables*—Perceval, Castlereagh, and Canning. You know in how spirited a manner his lordship conducted himself. He had, however, liberality to praise them

* Now Sir Robert Kerr Porter, the husband of a Russian Princess, lately returned from a public mission to Persia. And what redounds still more to his honour, he is brother to those elegant writers, the Misses PORTERS, whose works are held in such deservedly high estimation in Europe and America.

† Gustavus Adolphus XV. ‡ Perhaps M. Leopold.

for their manly and able conduct in defending the Princess of Wales against her rancorous traducers: which rather surprised me, as, from what I have heard respecting certain WHIG-LAWYERS, I expected they would have proved her worst enemies: to my personal knowledge, some are men of the most depraved and dissolute characters in existence, and, as regards women, low and vulgar in their associations, to a most disgusting degree. Lord HUTCHINSON did not, however, give *unqualified* praise even there, for he said that the King, (who assuredly presents the finest model of a PERFECT GENTLEMAN to be found in any Court in Europe) was so pleased with Mr. PERCEVAL's dexterity, not merely in *defending the Princess*, but in tracing the foul calumnies to their source, and so offended with the Whigs on account of their palpable endeavours to oblige the *****, and screen the false-witnesses, that he determined to get rid of them the first opportunity, and which presented itself in the Catholic question. Such were Lord Hutchinson's expressions: and, if his lordship is correct, it was the false and wicked calumnies heaped upon the Princess, and sanctioned by the *Whig Lawyers*, which overturned '*the Talents*,' and made Mr. Perceval Chancellor of the Exchequer!

" You know already my sentiments regarding the Princess of Wales. With the exception of Petersburg, Madrid, and Lisbon, I have visited every principal, and many of the minor, Courts of Europe, and on my conscience I aver that I never yet beheld a Princess more beloved, or more amiable! Happy is it for her, that the King is her shield. I fear if she survive that great and good Monarch, as she is now the most injured, she will then become the most wretched of women! The WHIG-LAWYERS will, I doubt not, offer her up as a sacrifice, to obtain place and power. For her sake, no less than from the love and reverence I

cherish towards George III. I pray, "*May the King live for ever.*"

Such is a portion of a letter written to the Editor, by a gentleman as well qualified as any person in Europe to judge of the youthful character of the present Queen, and such the terms of high commendation in which he mentioned her name. The ministers at the Courts of Denmark, Stockholm, Petersburg, and Berlin, have each had this eminent scholar and polished gentleman as a guest at their tables; he is therefore not an obscure authority, and, being perfectly independent in mind and fortune, seeking no favour of any party, he could not have been an interested witness; and if his life had been spared, he might have been an invaluable acquisition: but it is the peculiar misfortune of this Royal Lady, to have to mourn the death of her nearest and dearest relatives, her best and most powerful friends!

The splendid reception given by George III. to the destined bride of his Heir-Apparent, on her arrival on our shores, as far out-shone that which he had allotted to his Queen, as the happiness of Charlotte surpassed that of CAROLINE! The King, upon her first introduction, not only gave the lovely stranger a hearty kiss—a kiss of real affection,—but in the fulness of his heart he gave the Prince of Wales so *emphatical* a proof of the excess of his joy, by a hard grasp of his hand, that it brought *tears*, as it is recorded, into the Prince's eyes! The honeymoon of twenty-four hours' duration! for such it proved to Caroline, was commenced at Windsor-Castle, where his late Majesty strove, by every kind device, to convince his beloved niece and daughter, how deep an interest he felt in promoting her happiness.

In 1795, William V. Stadtholder of the United Provinces, and his family, after being indebted to the humanity of his conqueror for his escape in a

miserable schuyt, after tossing on a tempestuous sea, arrived safe on the English coast. The kind and hospitable reception he met with from his first cousin, (George III.) was some consolation for the ruin which his devotion to the PITT administration had brought upon him. An apartment at Hampton-Court palace was allotted as a residence for the illustrious strangers.

The late King, on the 29th of October, 1795, was grossly insulted by a part of the populace, as he was proceeding to open the session of parliament. The attack was made by a mere handful of assailants, who were unarmed. It was said that two hundred thousand persons were assembled: if this be true, ninety-nine out of every hundred, were attracted by mere curiosity. There was a loud and general cry, "Bread! bread! Peace! peace!" and the angry feelings then expressed in groans and hisses, were excited rather by hunger and distress, than enmity towards the King's person. Shortly after this unorganized and feeble attack, the minister proposed new laws, intended to coerce the people, and prevent what ministers termed "*sedition meetings*." It is worthy of remark, that the address of the *London Clergy* to the King deprecating these outrages, was received *upon the Throne*, whilst the Livery of London were denied that asserted right. During the year 1796, the same violent murmurs existed at the wasteful and arbitrary conduct of the Pitt administration. With a view to still an angry population, a negociation for peace, or, as many contended, for a long continued war, was *attempted* by Lord Malmsbury. Perhaps there was just as much *sincerity* on the one side as the other; and Spain was now leagued with the enemies of England. On the 16th of March, 1797, the citizens of London, in Common-Hall assembled, voted, almost unanimously, a petition to his Majesty praying for the dismissal of ministers,

as the first step towards a safe and honourable peace. This petition the late King was advised not to receive upon the Throne! It is impossible, conscientiously, to applaud a line of conduct so utterly incompatible with the principle on which alone, the House of Brunswick had attained the crown.

On the 18th of May, the reigning Duke of Wirtemberg, an overgrown prince, of matchless corpulence, and very equivocal character as the husband of a former wife, (who was reported to have suffered excessive cruelties,) was married to the Princess Royal of England. The result of that match was exactly such as many anticipated to the Royal bride—endless sorrow, and humiliation!

In June, 1797, a mutiny, principally arising from unchecked abuses respecting the provisions and allowances made to the sailors, broke out in the royal navy. The year 1789 was rendered still more memorable by the rebellion in Ireland. In December, a public Thanksgiving was ordered, on account of naval victories, when the King, his Family, and Court, went in grand procession to St. Paul's cathedral. On this occasion, Mr. PITT and his colleagues were assailed by the groans and hisses of the multitude: a species of entertainment for which that elevated and extraordinary class of beings appear *even yet* to have an *inordinate* appetite!

The volunteer-system of defensive armament had, in 1798-9, acquired a high degree of efficiency. On his birth-day in 1799, George III. reviewed sixty-five corps in Hyde-Park. The sight would have been much more gratifying to the spectators, had the weather been favourable: the rain poured down in torrents. The autumn of this year, George the Third passed at Weymouth, in a constant routine of excursions by land and water, surrounded by his Family and Court, and enjoying, in its highest perfection, the happiness of domestic tranquillity.

The year 1800 was marked by very important incidents, personally relating to the late King; which, *prima facie*, countenanced the reports, spread too assiduously by *alarmists*, that plots were in process, aiming at the life of George III.

The first occurrence took place on the 15th of March, as the King reviewed the grenadier battalion of Guards in Hyde-Park. As the troops were firing in companies, an individual, who stood nearly in a direct line with the King, was wounded by a bullet. The King, without expressing either terror or dismay, kindly inquired after the sufferer, and wisely expressed an opinion, that the shot had been left in the musket by accident.

In the second instance, the danger was far more imminent; but it arose clearly from the madness of a maimed soldier. HADFIELD, who, from the PIT, had fired a loaded pistol at the King just as he entered the stage-box, was, on his trial, fully proved to be insane. He was first confined in Bedlam, then removed to Newgate, where, about 1809, he acted as an inner-doorkeeper, and sold porter. He was then thought to be of a sound mind. Suddenly he became again deranged, and, seizing a poker, he laid furiously about him, and had nearly killed two or three persons before he was overpowered. This fact puts an end to all doubt respecting the reality of his insanity.

The King displayed great self-command on this occasion. Mr. SHERIDAN's conduct, as manager of Drury-lane theatre, was very grateful to his Sovereign.

It was during the present year that General Buonaparte, having attained the reins of government, under the denomination of First Consul, sent a pacific overture to George III. which was instantly rejected by Mr. PITT and Lord GRENVILLE, who wanted "*indemnity for the past, and security for the future.*" About the same time, the UNION

of IRELAND was consummated, chiefly by the agency of Lord CASTLEREAGH. Such was the final result of internal dissensions amongst that brave, generous, but divided race of people.

ANECDOTES,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE FOURTH EPOCH: 1791—1801.

“ In one of his morning strolls through the streets of Windsor, in 1792, he turned into the shop of a bookseller, who was still in bed. He amused himself in looking round the shop, while the boy stole upstairs to call his master. In the mean time the King had stumbled on some copies of Paine’s Rights of Man; and, seating himself on the counter, was employed in reading it, when the bookseller bustled into the shop. Seeing the obnoxious work which the King was perusing, he considered himself lost; and as the King kept the book close to his face, and was intently engaged in reading, he found it impossible to disturb him, though he coughed loud, and knocked the bundles about, and changed the places of all the chairs and tables. At length, arriving at a period in the sum or argument, the King looked up, and seeing the bookseller, entered into familiar chat, and laying the book on the counter, presently retired in his usual good humour. The bookseller was nevertheless uneasy; but he never afterwards observed any difference in the conduct of the King towards him, though, on turning up the pamphlet at the place where the Royal reader had paused, there was found in that page the famous passage in which Paine

unceremoniously asserted, that the King had not sufficient capacity to make a parish constable."—*Cobbin*.

"After the outlawry of Daniel Eaton, the bookseller, he ventured to return *incognito* to this country; but not daring to trust to the mercy of the Attorney-General, or the cabinet, he resolved to apply to Majesty itself. Eaton was nearly of the same age with the King. His father had held some inferior situation in the Prince of Wales's household, and Daniel had been in some degree a temporary playmate of the young heir-presumptive. On this chance he ventured to rely; and accordingly took an opportunity of placing himself in the Court-yard, at Windsor, when his Majesty was going to mount his horse on a hunting party. The King, whose recollection of individuals was most extraordinary, instantly recognized his quondam playfellow; but, without being aware that he was the prosecuted outlaw, until, in answer to his inquiries, Eaton informed him of his situation, and of the risk he then ran; when the benevolent Monarch at once quieted his fears, exclaiming, "Never fear, never fear, I will talk to Pitt!" and, in fact, in a few days the outlawry was reversed."—*Cobbin*.

"The King, like all keen sportsmen, felt vexed at being interrupted in the pleasures of the chase. An odd instance of this occurred many years ago. A man named Feltham, who first came about Hampton-Court as a cobbler, succeeded so well in fortune, that he acquired a long repairing-lease of the bridge. On this he proceeded to alter its form, and removed some old pavilions at the ends, erected to make it look pretty from the gardens. As he was to thrive by his tolls, he kept his gate locked when nothing was passing. One morning the Royal hunt came across from Hounslow-heath to the bridge, where the stag had taken water, and swam across. The hounds passed his gate without ceremony, followed by a large party, crying "The

King!" Feltham opened his gate, which he closed again after they had rushed through without paying, when a more numerous and showy party came up, vociferating more loudly 'The King, the King!' He stood with his key in his hand, though menaced by horsewhips. "I'll tell you what," said he, 'hang me, if I open my gate again till I see your money. I pay £400 a year for the bridge, and I laid out £1000 upon it. I've let King George through: God bless him! I know of no other King in England. If you have brought *the King of France*, hang me if I let him pass *without the blunt*.' Suddenly the King himself appeared among his attendants. Feltham made his reverence, opened his gate again, and the whole company went over to Mousley-hurst, when the dogs were at fault. The King, chagrined for the moment, sent back Lord Sandwich to know the reason of the interruption. The man explained the mistake; and added, that when Royal hunts had passed over this bridge, a guinea had been always paid, which franked all; and that this was his first good turn." Lord Sandwich returned to the King; but His Majesty hastily desired him to pay for all his attendants, who amounted to less than forty of the whole party. Feltham's lessor told him that the ladies at Court called him a rude fellow; but he replied, that he only took the best means to pay his high rent. The matter was afterwards explained to the King."—(*Times*.)

"Several years elapsed before the Stadtholder came to Hampton-court, where the King frequently visited him. Having hence occasion to use this bridge again, His Majesty pulled down his carriage window, and laughed heartily at Feltham at the toll-gate; observing hastily, 'No fear of the *King of France* coming *to-day*!' This old bridge-renter was proud to relate the story."—(*Times*.)

"When the King visited the Stadtholder, he took

an occasional peep at his celebrated vine, the fruit of which was sent to the Royal table exclusively. He valued much the great astronomical clock, and even commenced a repair of the grand old Gothic hall, (erected by Henry VIII. when he succeeded Wolsey in the possession of the palace,) the roof of which is a fine specimen of ancient carpentry, ornamented with various paintings in small compartments."—(*Times*.)

"He was pleased with a naval excursion, and enjoyed this recreation frequently at Weymouth. When aboard, he examined all parts of the vessel, and, while on deck, was constantly engaged either with his glass to catch distant objects, or making himself, by quick inquiries, conversant with the whole system of the sails and rigging. When he went down to the Nore to see the Dutch men-of-war taken by Lord Duncan off Camperdown, he was greatly diverted with the circumstance of a Lord of the Admiralty falling sea-sick."—(*Times*.)

"During the excesses which grew out of the spirit of anarchy called into action by the French revolution, the King was repeatedly exposed to the insults and attacks of a licentious mob. On each of these occasions he manifested the utmost fortitude and calmness; his personal courage astonished his friends, and awed his enemies."

The same qualities were displayed, in 1800, when a maniac, at Drury-lane Theatre, fired at the Royal person. The following account of this event is extracted from Wraxall's *Memoirs*.

"Few of his subjects would have shown the presence of mind, and attention to every thing, except himself, which pervaded his whole conduct on the evening of the 15th of May, 1800, at the time that Hadfield discharged a pistol over his head in the theatre, loaded with two slugs. His whole anxiety was directed towards the Queen, who, not having entered the box, might, he apprehended, on

hearing of the event, be overcome by her surprise or emotions. The dramatic piece which was about to be represented, commenced in a short space of time, precisely as if no accident had interrupted its performance; and so little were his nerves shaken, or his internal tranquillity disturbed by it, that he took his accustomed doze of three or four minutes between the conclusion of the play and the commencement of the farce, as he would have done on any other night."—(*Times*.)

"At the conclusion of a review of the 2d regiment of the Life Guards, in June, 1798, two privates went through the sword-exercise before the King; after which Lord Cathcart inquired if his Majesty would be pleased to see two of the *youngest* officers display their science in the use of the sword? He assented, and was much gratified with their execution. His Majesty then turned to the General, and inquired who were the *oldest* officers present? and on being answered that Lord Cathcart and Major Barton were; he desired to see them perform, laughing heartily, and telling his Lordship that he had brought the exhibition on himself. They accordingly turned out, to the great amusement of those present; and, though the Major's system savoured a little of the old school, they acquitted themselves very respectably."—(*Times*.)

"In January, 1793, I published a sermon, entitled 'The Wisdom and Goodness of God in having made both Rich and Poor;' with an appendix respecting the then circumstances of Great Britain and France. A strong spirit of insubordination and discontent was at that time prevalent in Great Britain: the common people were, in every village, talking about liberty and equality, without understanding the terms. I thought it not improper to endeavour to abate this revolutionary ferment, by informing the understandings of those who excited it. The King (at his levee) complimented me in

the warmest terms, in the hearing of the then Lord Dartmouth, on (he was pleased to say) the conciseness, clearness, and utility, of this little publication; and the then Archbishop of Canterbury afterwards informed me, that His Majesty had spoken to him of the publication in the same terms two months before. On this occasion, when the King was praising what I had written, I said to him, ‘I love to come forward in a moment of danger.’ His reply was so quick and proper, that I will put it down—‘I see you do, and it is a mark of a man of high spirit.’”—(*Watson.*)



*Apotheosis of the Princes Octavius & Alfred,
and of the Princess Amelia.
The former from Pictures by Gainsborough, in the Queen's Palace
& the latter from a fine Miniature, in the possession of
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester.*

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CHAPTER XXIII.

FIFTH EPOCH—1801 to 1811.

Peace; War; Men; Measures.—Colonel Despard.—The Guelphs and the Bourbons.—The King and the Prince.—Secret Intrigues.—Royal Conscience; or Walpole on Royal Divorces.—Original Anecdotes.—The Service of Plate.—Private life of George III. 1805.—Commercial pollution.—Acquittal of the Princess of Wales.—Specimen of the conspiracy against her.—Old feuds.—The Spanish soldiery.—The Jubilee.—Death of the Princess Amelia.—Deranged intellect: the Regency Bill.

THE Editor has now to commence the last division of the LIFE of George III. which morally ceased from the moment that his reasoning faculties were irreparably deranged, and the reins of government taken finally from his hands.

The stupendous victories gained over the enemies of France, having given an appearance of solidity to Buonaparte's government, the British people, wearied and disgusted with a war which grew every year more and more hopeless, either as regarded "*indemnity for the past, or security for the future*;" Mr. PITT resigned, and his pupil Mr. ADDINGTON, the son of a Berkshire physician, took his place; under whose auspices the treaty of Amiens was negotiated—and ratified in 1802.

This gentleman, who has lived to acquire a larger share of public odium than any minister who has appeared on the great theatre of Europe during the last threescore years, with the single exception of Lord Castlereagh,—whatever might be his defects as to talents as a statesman, displayed that amenity of manners to all who approached him, which

formed a striking contrast to the imperious, commanding tone and manner, adopted towards the underlings of office by Mr. PITT, of whose personal rudeness to his dependants, every official person complained; and whose jealousy was such, he could not endure the presence of any man possessed of transcendant abilities. Hence was assembled that *middle* race of statesmen, who occupy a midway spot between imbecility and exalted wisdom, and whose councils have brought England to her present alarming condition.

George III. was said to entertain a considerable degree of personal respect towards Mr. ADDINGTON, who acquired a considerable share of popularity by having restored peace to an exhausted nation. But scarcely was the ink dry, or the wax grown cold, before such indications obtruded as foreboded an ephemeral duration. Early in the next year, (1803,) dark clouds arose in the political horizon, and in May, the former war-system of Mr. PITT was renewed. On the side of the British government, military armaments going on in the ports of France and Holland, was the *assigned* cause; whilst the FIRST CONSUL of France loudly denounced the alleged perfidy of the British Cabinet. It is the historian's province to examine the foundation of those charges and recriminations; to whom they are resigned.*

* An anecdote has been told respecting these preliminaries, which is deserving of notice. It states that they were signed in town by the Secretary of State, *without an express order from the King*, on the 1st of October, 1801, whilst his Majesty was on the point of setting off from Weymouth to return to Windsor; and he had reached Andover on his way, when he was met by a messenger, despatched by the Cabinet to announce the fact.

“The despatches were delivered to him whilst standing in conversation at the window of the Inn, conversing with the Earl of Cardigan, and two other noblemen, whom he desired to remain whilst he read the note, observing them preparing to quit the

The case of Colonel DESPARD has been partially alluded to in the narrative of a suicide who killed himself in the presence of George the Third. The testimony given of the Colonel by Admiral Lord Nelson was that of a truly honourable gentleman. No one had higher claims on the score of loyalty, valour, military science, affability towards his inferiors, and obedience to his superiors. In body and in mind he was formed in nature's finest mould. And no man, in his better days, expressed more antipathy to conspiracy or assassination. An official injury, at least a belief of such, existing, relative to pecuniary claims on Government, aggravated by insult, is said to have almost unsettled his heretofore well-poised mind, and given birth to that extreme irritability of feeling against the ministers of the Crown, that drew the heavy hand of power upon him. He was long imprisoned in that edifice so generally known by the appellation of "*the Bastille*;" and he suffered so excessively by its cold and dampness, that his legs were nearly in a state of mortification. Ultimately he was discharged without a trial, *and a bill of indemnity* protected those whom the unhappy gentleman termed his oppressors, against his appeal to the law for redress.

In 1803, Colonel DESPARD was arrested, tried, convicted, and executed, on a charge of HIGH TREASON, committed with a party of soldiers, at an house in Oakley-street, Lambeth. He met death with the courage of a soldier, and the calm-

apartment. He is stated to have then opened the letter, and *to have expressed so much surprise, both by look and gesture*, that they again prepared to quit the apartment; when he advanced towards them, saying, "*I have received surprising news, but it is no secret. Preliminaries of PEACE are SIGNED with France. I knew NOTHING of it whatever; but since it is made, I wish it may be lasting.*"

ness of a philosopher. In rendering this act of justice to Colonel Despard's memory, the Editor's sole object is to shew the probability that his mind had been utterly unhinged by calamities and sufferings. Whoever reads his trial, and observes into what company he had fallen, and what sort of a project was in agitation, will, if *their minds* are unbiassed by party-feeling, admit that Colonel DESPARD was probably *demented*, when he became the leader of so absurd and desperate a conspiracy.

The loss of Hanover *for ever*, as far as George the Third could know its fate, was one of the first results of the new war. And if the Emperor Paul had not been so *opportunately* assassinated, England would have had to contend against Russia and France united. The First Consul, fully resolved to attempt the conquest of Great Britain, applied all his vast resources to prepare an armament capable of throwing a hundred thousand soldiers upon its shores. This menace had the effect it ought to have had; it roused the spirit of the nation, and rendered a war popular, which would otherwise have excited an overwhelming opposition amongst those who thought it neither just nor necessary. The volunteering system of defence, was more than revived; and before it was possible for the enemy to realize his project of invasion, his faithful adherent, the Emperor PAUL, was murdered, a new coalition was formed on the Continent against France,—and *the English* became an armed nation.

A grand review of the different volunteer corps of the metropolis, by the King, in Hyde-Park, presented a spectacle truly gratifying to the Monarch, and honourable to his subjects. It was attended by the late Queen, and all the Royal Family then in England, and all the Princes of the *House of Bourbon*, for the restoration of whose fallen throne,

it was asserted by many, and believed by more, that the war itself was undertaken. The French Revolution had familiarized Europe with political prodigies: amongst which class of events, the two rival families, the GUELPHS and the Bourbons, quietly witnessing a review in Hyde-Park, was surely included! The astrologer who had, in 1780, ventured to foretel such an event, would have been laughed at as an idiot, if he had escaped confinement as a lunatic! And it shewed a *bad taste* in those who arranged the meeting.—At this important crisis the Prince of Wales felt deeply mortified at not being appointed to an active military command: the King refused his gallant wish, and a spirited remonstrance followed, of the tenor of which the following may serve as a specimen: “*Ought I not to come forward in a moment of unexampled difficulty and danger? Ought I not to share in the glory of victory, when I have every thing to lose by defeat? The highest places in your Majesty’s service are filled by the younger branches of the Royal Family; TO ME ALONE NO PLACE IS ASSIGNED; I am not thought worthy to be, even the junior Major-General of your army.*” George the Third was inflexible in his exclusion; and the Prince, of course, submitted.

At this period the secret enemies of the Princess of Wales were busily at work in treacherously undermining her good name: spreading, wherever they could, the foulest insinuations, and hinting that she was just such a character as “*FLYNDELL’S Luminary*” recently depicted. Open, ingenuous, unsuspecting, the Princess received and cherished as friendly guests, wretches who were in league with those who aimed—not merely to deprive her of her life, but to destroy her honour,—to hold her up as a lewd and a drunken woman, the mother of an illegitimate child, born during her non-intercourse with the Prince! Such were their denunciations; and perjury, and subornation, the means whereby

they hoped to effect her destruction. Which extraordinary degree of rancorous enmity, in all probability, took its source from the sordid hopes of unprincipled speculators, who, aware of the vile machinations to which recourse had been had, on her first arrival, to render this Lady personally disagreeable to her husband, might suppose, that if they could, by conspiracy and by subornation, produce the semblance of legal proof, it would be eagerly caught at, and munificently rewarded. Such, assuredly, was the motive of the DOUGLASSES—and similar the fiend-like spirit of the miscreants who have since pursued this unhappy Lady. On this system, an innocent wife may be destroyed, without any direct co-operation on the side of the husband. George the First was probably thus treated, as regarded his unhappy consort, relative to whose *supposed* divorce HORACE WALPOLE has expressed himself thus:—"Nor do I know or suppose that despotism and pride allow the law to insist on much formality when a sovereign has a mind to be rid of his wife. Perhaps too much difficulty of untying the Gordian knot of matrimony, thrown in the way of an absolute Prince, would be no kindness to the Ladies, but might induce him to use a sharper weapon, like that BUTCHERING-HUSBAND, our Henry VIII. SOVEREIGNS *who narrow or let out the LAW of GOD according to their prejudices, or the passions, MOULD THEIR OWN LAWS, NO DOUBT, TO THE STANDARD OF THEIR OWN CONVENIENCY.*"—It is not as regards an individual female, however exalted, that this doctrine should be resolutely opposed by every legal means; but for the protection of social life, the honour and safety of MARRIED WOMEN: for what dissolute husband that is wealthy, and grown weary of his wife, and who lusts after a more young and beautiful bride, will be deficient of means to effect his purpose, by hireling false swearers, if once a precedent were given in an

elevated example? Infinitely better and wiser would it be, to change the law of the land, and consider marriages merely as civil contracts, and dissoluble by common-law process, than tolerate such iniquitous means!

Early in 1804, the French Government denounced that of Great Britain to the indignation of Europe, for an alleged conspiracy, carried on through British diplomatic agents at neutral German courts, with French assassins. The disgraceful flight of Mr. Drake from Munich, the arrest of Generals Pechegru and Moreau, the death of the Duke D'Enghein, and the elevation of Napoleon Buonaparte to an imperial throne, were amongst the results of this memorable conspiracy. If, however, as alleged by *the Courier*, the whole was only a vast and complicated piece of state-machinery set on foot by the FIRST CONSUL, and merely intended to serve as a stepping-stone to the throne he was plotting how to erect,—he met his punishment in his success; for few will be so hardy as to deny, that if Napoleon had remained true to the principles of the Consular government, even after he had declared himself Consul for life, he might not have been, at this moment, at the head of the French nation. That great man did not possess the self-denial of a WASHINGTON,—nor had he had the advantage of being reared in a free country. The former was a mere soldier,—Washington was a citizen, and surrounded by deep-thinking republicans. Hence arose the difference in their courses and in their destinies.

Though nature did not exempt George III. from the operation of its universal law, he exhibited, in the summer of 1804, the vigour of an hale old man of sixty-six; his health completely restored from the severe attack of the February preceding, and his spirits were revived by the pure sea-breezes at Weymouth, and those delightful excursions by land

and water, which every day presented. His eyesight, more than any other sense, had failed him, but still as he walked on the Pier or Esplanade, early in a morning, followed at a distance by *M' Manus*, nothing delighted him more than to give his *private guard* the slip, to get into some house, and laugh heartily at the hurry and apparent perplexity of *M' Manus*, who was so politic, or so *polite*, as often to pretend not to know where his Royal charge had gone. An occurrence of this sort took place one day near Harvey's Library. The King, seeing the mistress of a small lodging-house sweeping the steps of the door-way, he hastily pushed her aside, and went into the parlour, the door of which stood open. The Editor was at that instant passing the door; the King said to him rapidly, "*Don't tell M' Manus where I am, if you see him looking after me!*" It was near six o'clock in the morning. Presently came *M' Manus*, apparently in a great bustle, looking every way but the right, to find his Sovereign, who was peeping through the Venetian blinds of the parlour window. After enjoying the fun about ten minutes, the King came out, and hurried across to the Esplanade. "I had lost sight of you, Sir," said *M' Manus*, respectfully, yet half familiarly: "Pretty fellow, an't you, pretty fellow! Lose the King! lose the King! What will they say at Gloucester-Lodge, aye? *M' Manus*, what will Charlotte say? Pretty fellow! pretty fellow!" These words were uttered with the utmost rapidity, and then, exploring his way with a strong gold-headed cane, and laughing heartily, he began his walk towards the Turnpike. When next the Editor met *M' Manus* alone, he said, "Had you really lost sight of the King the other morning when he went into Mrs. ——'s house?"—"I should be a '*pretty fellow*' indeed if I had," said the old gentleman, drily. "When the King looks behind him, and tries to elude me, I often affect to be

eluded, because it serves to please him. I knew where his Majesty was as well as you did ; but the King was pleased to find you would not tell me."

One day, as the Editor was walking on the Esplanade, he observed M'Manus fix his eye intensely upon a tall, elegantly dressed man, whose appearance bespoke a high degree of opulence and taste: the stranger was standing on the steps of Harvey's Library, and a young man dressed like a groom, but not in livery, with every mark of deference, handed him a letter. "*Those are two pickpockets,*" said M'Manus, "*I must give them a passport.* You may follow me, if you like, to hear what passes." As M'Manus approached, the lynx-eyed servant, observing his movement, made his retreat. Stepping up to the master, he said, "How dare you shew yourself in this place? Get upon the mail, you and your comrade, at one o'clock, or I'll take you both in custody."—"I only came here, Sir, for the benefit of salt-water bathing for a few days."—"Begone, Sir: quit Weymouth and Melcombe Regis immediately. You'll have *salt-water* enough, Sir, on your way to Botany!" A dozen persons were within hearing, who appeared amazed at the apparent insolence of M'Manus; but the fallen crest of the unhappy man whom he had thus sternly accosted, his abject mien and instant promise of obedience, shewed the consciousness, not alone of guilt, but the danger of delay, of remonstrance, or resistance. There was a concert to be performed at the Royal Hotel, where the King, Queen, and Princesses, were expected; and M'Manus knew at once what was the attraction that had brought him thither: it seemed that the former had authority from the Home Department, to exercise this harsh power, and inflict punishment prior to the commission of crime.

The coolness which had subsisted a considerable time between the King and the Prince of Wales, was

happily terminated by a reconciliation in the summer of 1804: this event had been much more satisfactory to the venerable Monarch, if he could have induced the Prince to live with his Princess; in whose fate he always sympathized, and whose virtue he never appeared to doubt, not even when her accusers were the most vehement and powerful.

It is not consistent with the prescribed limits of this work, to detail the various changes of men in the cabinet,—the ousting of '*the Doctor*,' as Mr. Addington was contemptuously termed by Mr. GEORGE CANNING, and the inability of the latter to support himself, till '*the Talents*' came into power, when all the incipient plots, which had been for years hatching in secret against the Princess of Wales, came to maturity, were investigated '*by the Prince's friends*,'—and even by *them* condemned as utterly false and unfounded, a *dubious* imputation of indiscretion alone excepted.

On the 23d April, 1805, George III. indulged himself in a very magnificent spectacle at Windsor Castle. It was an installation of the Knights of the Garter, accompanied by great festivities. The splendour of the fête may be estimated, by fifty thousand pounds having been expended by the King, in decorations, embellishments, and refreshments for his numerous guests. At the King's table, one truly English item in the bill of fare, was a *Baron of Beef*, weighing one hundred and sixty-two pounds! The Queen and Princesses took their share in those grand festivities.

It was in the spring of this year that the late King presented the Princess of Wales with a superb service of Plate, and two Arabian Horses of peculiar beauty. There is no reason to believe, notwithstanding the speech of Lord Castlereagh, that when the King caused this present to be made, he had any conception it would ever more be reclaimed as *the property of the Crown*; and those

who advised his successor to lay an attachment on the property, pursued a line of conduct which reflects no great honour upon the British Court, nor the gallantry of its accomplished Monarch.

The King's last brother, the Duke of Gloucester, died this year; of whom nothing very flattering can be said, consistently with truth. The character of meanness attached strongly and generally: on the other hand, his character was not stained by any enormous vice.

In 1806, the following authentic picture was published of the King's private life:—

“ Our Sovereign's sight is so much recovered since last spring, that he can now clearly distinguish objects at the distance of twenty yards. In consequence of this favourable change, the King has discontinued the use of the large flapped hat which he usually wore, and likewise the silk shade.

“ His Majesty's mode of living now is not quite so abstemious. He now sleeps on the north side of the Castle, next the Terrace, in a roomy apartment, not carpeted, on the ground floor. The room is neatly furnished, partly in a modern style, under the tasteful direction of the Princess Elizabeth. The King's private dining-room, and the apartments *en suite*, appropriated to His Majesty's use, are all on the same side of the Castle.

“ The Queen and the Princesses occupy the western wing. When the King rises, which is generally about half-past seven o'clock,* he proceeds immediately to the Queen's Saloon, where His Majesty is met by one of the Princesses; generally either Augusta, Sophia, or Amelia; for each, in turn, attend their revered parent. From thence the Sovereign and his Daughter, attended by the Lady in waiting, proceed to the chapel in the Castle,

* His Majesty rose much earlier at Weymouth: this description was written in, and applied to, the winter months.

wherein divine service is performed by the Dean, or Sub-dean: the ceremony occupies about an hour. Thus the time passes until nine o'clock; when the King, instead of proceeding to his own apartment, and breakfasting alone, now takes that meal with the Queen and five Princesses. The table is always set out in the Queen's noble breakfasting-room, which has been recently decorated with very elegant modern hangings; and since the late improvements by Mr. Wyatt, commands a most delightful and extensive prospect of the Little Park. The breakfast does not occupy half an hour. The King and Queen sit at the head of the table, and the Princesses according to seniority. Etiquette in every other respect is strictly attended to. On entering the room, the usual forms are observed agreeably to rank.

“After breakfast, the King generally rides out on horseback, attended by his equerries: three of the Princesses, namely, Augusta, Sophia, and Amelia, are usually of the party. Instead of only walking his horse, His Majesty now proceeds at a good round trot. When the weather is unfavourable, the King retires to his favourite sitting-room, and sends for Generals Fitzroy or Manners to play at Chess with him. His Majesty, who knows that game well, is highly pleased when he beats the former, that gentleman being an excellent player.

“The King dines regularly at two o'clock; the Queen and Princesses at four. His Majesty visits, and takes a glass of wine and water with them at five. After this period, public business is frequently transacted by the King at his own study, wherein he is attended by his private secretary, Colonel Taylor.

“The evening is, as usual, passed at cards, in the Queen's drawing-room, where three tables are set out. To these parties, many of the principal nobility, &c. residing in the neighbourhood, are invited. When the Castle clock strikes ten, the visitors re-

ture. The supper is set out, but that is merely a matter of form; of which none of the family partake. These illustrious personages retire at eleven o'clock, to rest for the night. The journal of one day, is the history of a whole year."

The conscience of George III. was at this period greatly distressed by the corruptions and perjuries attendant upon the License System of Trade, and the FALSE PAPERS and FALSE OATHS by which, not only foreign commerce, but also a large share of that of British merchants and ship-owners, was carried on. He frequently hesitated to sign his name to Licenses; and when his ministers urged, that trade could not be obtained without tolerating those enormous crimes, nor the object of the Milan and Berlin decrees be defeated, he would shake his head and say, "The thing is too wicked to prosper; it will draw down the signal vengeance of the Almighty upon this country." Such were the conscientious scruples of the Sovereign: not so the clerks of the Council-office. When James Graham, Esq. a well-known merchant of London, applied to know the number of Licenses that had been granted, one of the gentlemen said, '*The only account we keep as to Licenses, is the amount of the fees they produce!*'

The origin of this foul blot in the annals of Christianity and commerce, has been already given. *The FIRST American war was its parent; the SECOND, its offspring!* From the year 1794 to 1802, there were more commercial perjuries juridically proved, than in all Europe, from the birth of Christ to that period. During the second part of the French revolutionary war, there was ten times the mass of perjury consummated that had disgraced the career of the first. In 1805, THREE THOUSAND sail of Dutch and French ships of commerce, navigated as Prussian property: and not less than a thousand BRITISH SHIPS, to the indelible disgrace of this country, ploughed the sea under the usurped flag

of the United States: the masters and seamen were covered by forged certificates; the ships were navigated by forged papers, in which, of course, the President's signature, and the great seal of that commonwealth, were imitated. The Editor sacrificed a large fortune, in his efforts to put a stop to those iniquitous proceedings, which led to the subjugation of Prussia, the disputes and war with America, and that school for Deism in the heart of the metropolis—called “*The Temple of Reason!*”

Perjury, of the most odious and corrupt kind, became in daily requisition, elevated, as it were, to the rank of a science. It was almost openly exercised, and also judicially sanctioned. It was found *expedient* to make an offering of CHRISTIANITY on the altar of corrupted gains. Far better had commerce been suffered to PERISH, than the morals of mankind have been thus dreadfully polluted. For when a nation is thus far advanced on the path that leads to temporal and eternal perdition, no human being can fix limits to its descent, nor cherish a rational hope of its escaping the penalty due to such stupendous crimes. It was to cherish the revenue, those horrible iniquities were tolerated; and commerce has been so generally declining ever since, that it appears as if the hand of Providence was inflicting its vengeance on the temptation which had occasioned this foul disgrace; during the active operation of which, too many of our merchants contended for the honour of furnishing the enemy with naval and warlike stores, to aid in constructing the fleets intended to subdue this kingdom! And lessons were given to instruct ship-masters, mates, and seamen, in the art of consistent false-swearing; and premiums were awarded to the most expert and fearless contemners of their God and their consciences!

In consequence of these enormous violations of the law of God, and of nations, thousands of the

flower of British seamen were annually *denationalized*, and transferred to the United States as *native-born-citizens*: whose presence led to acts of violence for their recovery, such as Great Britain would not endure, and therefore ought not to have inflicted.

The year 1806 was rendered memorable by the death of those rival-statesmen, WILLIAM PITT and CHARLES JAMES FOX. In 1807, Cardinal YORK, otherwise HENRY the NINTH, died, being the last male heir of the Stuarts: he gave the Prince of Wales, by will, the insignia of the Garter, which Charles the First had owned, and an ancient ring, worn in times of yore at the coronation of the Kings of Scotland.

In 1806, the late King granted a commission to the lords, Erskine, Ellenborough, Grenville, and Spencer, to inquire into, and determine upon, the truth or falsehood of the disreputable charges which the DOUGLASSES, and other denunciators, had advanced against the Princess of Wales: and on the 8th of December following, their report fully **ACQUITTED** that injured Lady of the alleged pregnancy and childbirth, and pronounced that Sir JOHN DOUGLASS and CHARLOTTE his wife, who had made oath of the truth of those facts, were false and perjured. Yet, those persons, whose guilt was so stupendous, have hitherto escaped any other punishment than the execration of mankind; whilst the Princess is, a third time, placed in a state of peril, by that dreadful anomaly in jurisprudence, a *Bill of Pains and Penalties*!—Not THOMAS PAINE, not all the republican writers of ancient or modern times, ever had the power to bring monarchy into disgrace so efficiently, as the VICES in which those lamentable occurrences have originated.

As a proof of the persecuting and wicked spirit of the machinations against the Princess of Wales, the Editor subjoins the following narrative:—

In the spring of 1805, he went from North Yar-

mouth to South End, to seek Captain JOHN HANCOCK, R. N. then commander of the *Cruiser* sloop of war, lying at the Great Nore, and took up his residence at Great Wakering, at a small village-inn kept by Mr. ABRAHAM WISNEY.

Whilst there, he observed a well-dressed man, about forty years old, frequently following a decent-looking young woman, who appeared very anxious to shun him, and, from her looks and motions, to feel a strong degree of horror and aversion.

Supposing it was an importunate, or a false lover, the Editor said to the young woman, What has that fine-looking fellow done, to make you look so scornful? 'DONE!' said she, with a violent emphasis, 'THAT *for which the VILLAIN ought to be hanged as high as Haman ever was!*' Upon being asked, 'For what crime?'—She said, '*He is a villain and a traitor. I lived servant with the Princess of WALES, and lost my place through spite and malice; and now that wretch is following me, trying to make me FALSELY swear away the life of the Princess,—and bear FALSE witness against her.*' A surgeon or apothecary, resident in Great Wakering, then frequented the inn where the Editor put up; to whom he related this extraordinary conversation, and asked his opinion of the girl's veracity: his answer was, that he could very well believe her, for he had noticed different persons who seemed to have no other employment than going from place to place in that vicinity, vilifying the character of the Princess; adding, '*I have no doubt but some hellish plot is on foot, to destroy the Princess, and bastardize her daughter.*'

In March, 1807, the King dismissed the WHIGS; and the Hon. SPENCER PERCEVAL, and his associates, took their places.

Amongst the domestic events of this year, connected with the family of George III., was the arrival of the widowed Duchess of Brunswick, mother

to the Princess of Wales. Her husband, his family, and dominions, all fallen in the wreck of the Prussian monarchy. George III. immediately visited a sister whom he had not seen during forty years!—This must have been a peculiarly painful interview; for although nearly half a century had elapsed since the personal dislike then existing between the reigning Queen and the Duchess had first displayed its influence, its virulence had not abated; and the unhappy daughter had to complain of slights and injuries far more humiliating and distressing. About this period the Princess of Wales, after a long prohibition, was received at the Queen's Court. But this was only a transient gleam of sun-shine, which clouds and storms quickly obscured.

The year 1808 was memorable, as witnessing the brave resistance offered by the Spaniards to the nomination and intrusion of a king, by a foreign monarch.*

This great wrong, which, step by step, led to the fall of the mighty conqueror by whom it was inflicted, affords another awful illustration of the CERTAINTY of Divine retribution. Where no human

* The Editor, in August 1808, was windbound in Wingasund, where also lay General Romana and the Spanish troops, who had been dexterously embarked by the aid of the British Navy: he was present when a large sack full of letters from Spain was opened, which the British Government had transmitted. They announced the events which had recently taken place in Spain; the insurrection in Madrid, and the various battles which had been fought. Many a Spaniard, both officers and men, then received intelligence of the death of near and dear relatives. It was an affecting scene. Throwing their caps on the rocks, they clasped their hands, and as they looked up to Heaven, tears ran down their sun-burnt cheeks; others kneeled on the earth, and for half an hour, as far as the eye could reach, the same solemn demeanour prevailed. Scarcely an instance of inebriety or irregularity occurred; and the troops paid honestly and quietly for every thing they had purchased from those poor Swedish islanders.

power was sufficiently strong to inflict a commensurate punishment, the CRIME itself was, most effectually and impressively, made to answer that end!

The Grand Junta of Spain, soon after its establishment, made George III. a present of two thousand five hundred Merino sheep, attended by thirteen native shepherds: a gift which proved very pleasing to the King, and, ultimately, of great advantage to the nation, by improving the breed of sheep, and producing finer fleeces.

The next year, 1809, was marked by a general JUBILEE in honour of George III. The Editor has been assured, that the Monarch was distressed and disgusted, by the gross adulation and personal flattery heaped upon him by too many of the titled clergy. This splendid festival marked the last boundary of that happy and tranquil life which George III. had enjoyed during so many years. His feelings were greatly disturbed by the charges adduced against his second son, the Duke of York: the afflicted Parent was often seen to weep, when he thought he was alone and unobserved; and he said to the accused Prince, ‘I wish it had pleased the Almighty ere this, to have taken me hence, that I might have escaped the sufferings I now endure, in hearing of your ———.’

This investigation caused so much uneasiness to the King, that it probably accelerated that sad catastrophe, the total derangement of his mind, which put a final period to his regal functions. In 1810, on the 2d of November, the Princess Amelia died. The disease of which she perished, was slow, lingering, and almost incessantly full of agony. The following pathetic lines are generally believed to have been traced by her hand, whilst suffering thus acutely by a dreadful and an incurable malady:—

‘ Unthinking, idle, wild, and young,
I laugh’d, and danc’d, and talk’d, and sung;

And proud of health, of freedom vain,
Dreamt not of sorrow, care, nor pain;
Concluding, in those hours of glee,
That all the world was made for me.

‘ But when the hour of trial came,
When sickness shook this trembling frame;
When folly’s gay pursuits were o’er,
And I could dance and sing no more;
It then occur’d how sad ’twould be,
Were THIS world only, made for me.’

The affliction of her fond, doating, commiserating father, was unremitting and intense, and denoted, no less than his love, a decay of mind; for had his faculties not been impaired very essentially, his religious philosophy would have enabled him to bear this calamity with greater fortitude. And it is much to be regretted that George III. on the national celebration of the JUBILEE, when he had passed the usual age of man, and when the loss of vision rendered it impossible for him to discharge his public functions, had not made up his mind to nominate the Prince of Wales, Regent of the Kingdom. If he had acted thus, whilst yet his mind retained sufficient of its pristine powers, fully to comprehend the stipulations he had to enforce, the Prince might have attained the reins of government without any *trammels*; and the ANOMALOUS process, now carrying on against the Queen-consort, been wholly avoided.

It was on the 25th October, 1809, that the JUBILEE was celebrated, in honour of George III. —and on the 25th of October, 1810, his increasing mental infirmity became so apparent, it was officially communicated to the nation. So rapid was the progress of His Majesty’s disorder, it occasioned great difficulties in the mode of procedure; and no material abatement taking place, the Regency Bill was passed, under restrictions which enabled the ministers—to *keep their places!*

The care of the King's person, with an immense and costly establishment, was entrusted to his Queen, with the control of the household, assisted by a council:—and in this melancholy manner terminated the active reign of a Monarch, whose MORALS and MANNERS endeared him to his subjects; for his whole private life presented a sublime model, even to the most virtuous.

ANECDOTES,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE FIFTH EPOCH: 1801—1811.

“ His Majesty not only observed the Christian sabbath day, by attending regularly the house of God on that day, but he encouraged its sanctification through his household. In confirmation of this statement, permit me to relate an anecdote of Mr. Gray. Mr. Gray resided in the palace from the time of His Majesty's accession, to the period of his death, which happened in 1801. He was an ingenious mechanic; and, under the immediate eye of the King, many alterations were from time to time effected in different apartments of the Royal residence.—

“ A principal, in attendance upon the person of His Majesty, said to Mr. Gray, on a Sunday, ‘ I wish you to have a bedstead removed from such a room,’ naming it, ‘ to such a room.’—‘ My lord,’ said Gray, ‘ I never do any thing of that kind on a Sunday; I would do it for no one, except His Majesty commanded it; and in saying that, my lord, I run no risk, for I am persuaded the King will not order it to be done.’ The refusal gave offence, and

was followed by a report of the transaction to the King: the King said to his lordship, (as he afterwards informed Gray,) ‘Gray is a man that fears God, and sooner than require him to make such alterations on a Sunday, I would sleep without a bedstead.’”—(*Dr. Cracknell.*)*

“The sermons of Dr. Barrow constituted the favourite theological work of our late excellent Sovereign, who made it a rule to read a portion of them regularly in his family every Sunday evening. Sometimes His Majesty would, with a pencil, mark the divisions of the sermon he intended to read, and thus the entire collection, with little variation, lasted the year round.

“It was His Majesty’s constant practice to devote one hour in the early part of the morning, to reading the scriptures and to closet prayer.”—(*Cobbin.*)

“In number 93 of the Monthly Magazine, (Nov. 1802,) the editor (Sir Richard Phillips) reported the result of his personal observations during a month’s residence at Windsor, in the following terms:—
“The private life of His Majesty not being generally known, it may be interesting to observe, that he is an early riser, and a constant attendant every day at eight o’clock on Divine service, which is performed at the King’s chapel, in the upper court. Except on the days on which public business calls him to London, he generally rides out till dinner in the Great Park, to his farm, accompanied by some

*“These circumstances were related to me by the late W. Forsyth, Esq. F. A. S. and F. S. A. gardener to His Majesty at Kensington and St. James’s, in the presence of Mr. Gray, who at this time was visited with his last sickness. His Majesty also was indisposed at the same time; and I firmly believe, that His Majesty’s illness, in connexion with his own, accelerated his departure to the joy of his Lord. The attachment of His Majesty’s domestics to their King and Master, more than equalled filial affection in its ordinary operation. This conveys more than a volume of encomiums pronounced by a panegyrist.”

of the Princesses on horseback, or in their sociables. He dines at half after four, on plain beef or mutton, hot or cold, as the dinner never waits, and, at a quarter after six, makes his appearance on the Terrace, attended by his amiable, accomplished, and beautiful daughters, and occasionally by one or other of his sons; and here he promenades for an hour, occasionally stopping and chatting with those persons of whom he has any knowledge. Notwithstanding the affectation of numerous guards in London, His Majesty is always unguarded at Windsor; and he appears to give his subjects full and liberal credit for that degree of loyalty, which a King, *who is governed by the law of the land*, is always sure to experience; there is nothing different in His Majesty's public appearance on foot, from what it was before the late war, except the ungracious attendance of two police officers, who pace at a short distance from his person, one before and another behind him, and who keep back at a suitable distance, all persons that appear to entertain an intention of direct intrusion. His Majesty indulges in his well-founded partiality for Gothic architecture, and is at this time rendering the style of his magnificent Castle more uniform, by altering several of the windows, and rebuilding a new and very tasteful entrance into the state apartments. Under his patronage, St. George's chapel has been rendered, by various embellishments, one of the most beautiful places for Divine worship in Christendom."—(*Cobbin.*)

"At the York assizes, in 1803, the clerk to a mercantile house in Leeds, was tried on a charge of forgery, found guilty, and condemned to death. His family, at Halifax, was very respectable, and his father, in particular, bore an excellent character. Immediately after the sentence was passed on the unfortunate young man, Dr. FAWCETT, of Heywood Hall, a dissenting minister of the Baptist

persuasion, who had long been intimate with the father, presumed to address His Majesty in a petition, soliciting the pardon of the son of his friend. Fully aware that it had been almost an invariable rule with the government to grant no pardon in cases of forgery, he had little hopes of success; but, contrary to his expectation, his petition prevailed, and a reprieve was granted. That the solicitation of a private individual should have succeeded, when similar applications, urged by numbers, and supported by great interest, have uniformly failed, may excite surprise, and deserves particular attention. The following circumstances, however, the veracity of which may be relied upon, will fully explain the singularity of the fact. In the year 1802, a dignified Divine preaching before the Royal Family, happened to quote a passage illustrating his subject, from a living writer, whose name he did not mention. The King, who was always remarkably attentive, was struck with the quotation, and immediately noted the passage for inquiry.

“At the conclusion of the service, he asked the preacher from whom the extract had been taken? and being informed that the author was a dissenting minister in Yorkshire, he expressed a wish to have a copy of the original discourse.

“The Royal inclination was accordingly imparted to the author, who lost no time in complying with it; accompanying the work with a very modest letter, expressive of the high sense which the writer entertained of the honour conferred upon him. His Majesty was so well pleased with the production, as to signify his readiness to serve the author.

“The case of the above young man shortly after afforded this amiable and disinterested minister an opportunity of supplicating, at the hands of the Monarch, the exercise of his Royal prerogative.”

(Cobbin.)

“ In the year 1804, a court-martial was held upon an officer of high rank, for striking a private. The officer was found guilty, and sentenced to receive a severe reprimand ; of which His Majesty most pointedly declared his approbation in the fullest extent, specifically directing, through the Commander in Chief, that the Judge Advocate's letter should express the Sovereign's wish, that the lieutenant-colonel, in his zeal for the service, had conducted his command with more temper than in some instances he appeared to have done ; and that it should also declare the King's highest disapprobation of striking a soldier at any time, but more especially when under arms ; although the blow, as in the case adduced in the evidence, might be inflicted without cruelty, or without any material hurt.”—(*Cobbin.*)

“ The last exhibition of regal magnificence was the installation of the Knights of the Garter at Windsor, which occasioned a sort of Court gala for several days ; wherein were displayed all the crested, plumed, and bannered honours, of the chivalrous knighthood of the warlike days of the Edwards and Henrys, waving in St. George's Chapel, under

‘ The high embowed roof,
‘ With antique pillars, massy proof,
‘ And storied windows richly dight,
‘ Casting a dim religious light.’

And these were succeeded by the gorgeousness and ponderous pomp of an ancient royal banquet ; which, however, was afterwards relieved by all the improvements of modern tastes and fashions, in open feasting under the captured tents of Tippoo, at Frogmore ; by promenades amidst illuminated gardens, lakes, covered walks, and rural saloons, lined and over-arched with the natural foliage of the oak, the laurel, and the arbutus, and

embellished and perfumed by the sweetest flowers of the parterre; and the whole sylvan scene thrown open to the view of crowds of loyal gazers. But, even amidst these sportive relaxations of a British Court, festivity was so chastened, that the severest mind could see no cause to say that any irregularities were encouraged. All bore the stamp of the Master, cheerfulness and dignity. No sons of jollity "outwatched the bear" in their copious compositions within the royal walls.

"An observer of the King's life may be excused in being somewhat minute in interesting recollections of departed greatness. It was quite delightful to witness, on the occasion to which we are referring, the ceaseless activity of the Sovereign, though even then advanced in age. In chapel, his Majesty rolled up the printed form, and with it accompanied the time of the music. He kindly called the attention of his train-bearers, the young Marquisses of Worcester and Tavistock, to the ceremonies, and repeatedly turned over the leaves of the service-book, to point out the immediate passages to an illustrious Duke, who sat on his left hand. One incident provoked a half-suppressed smile within the sacred walls. Sir Sydney Smith, *who had been shifting his seat from bench to bench, took his stand, unwittingly, immediately before the Royal desk* under the organ. The King, master of all the etiquette, instantly perceived the indecorum, and good-humouredly gave the gallant Knight of the Polar Star, with his hollow paper scroll in his hand, two or three taps on the back part of the head, *which resounded*; and the Knight, amid a universal gaze, speedily sought his retreat on a back bench, between the present and the Dowager Duchess of Rutland, where he was canopied over by the bending plumes of those lovely ladies, who alone on that day wore feathers. The circumstance relaxed all the gravity of the learned and

reverend *Philopatris Varvicensis*, who was sitting near. The Prince of Wales did not seem in perfect health. The Princess of Wales sat very near the Queen, and chatted with the Princesses and the Duchess of York. The King wore a powdered dress-wig of George II.'s, (he once went in it to the House of Lords) which was somewhat out of harmony either with the surcoat, or the robed costume. It resembled a huge spherical mass of snow, descending between the shoulders in the form of an inverted cone; and the appearance was not improved by the pressure of a heavy cap and plume. The Court Ladies feelingly regretted the absence of the black rosette and flowing curls, which are always to be seen in portraits of modern robed Sovereigns and Knights. The writer of this does not recollect any picture of the Second George with this head-dress. His Majesty wore it from the honour in which he held his ancestors. The King evinced this praise-worthy feeling frequently, in other particulars. About this time he repaired and new-mounted a great heavy landau, a favourite carriage of the military Duke of Cumberland, his uncle."—*Times*.

"After the installation which we mentioned yesterday, the late King was in high spirits at a morning's review of Foot-Guards in the Little-Park. The spectators were numerous. Mr. Windham, the life of a female party, was among them, remarking and explaining every thing with his usual happy quickness. "This is all very fine: I came down on purpose to see it. It is better than the formal shows were at Versailles." The King, turning round suddenly to him, "Ah! Windham, you are there: I hope you like it all." At a review of the Horse-Guards next morning in the Great Park, a grand line of Royal and other carriages was formed, and behind them an exhibition was made of all the valuable horses of his Majesty from their

different stables: some drawing handsome Royal carriages, with saddle-horses and chargers—English, German, and Oriental. They made a fine show. The King divided his spare moments during the review, between the Queen and the Princess of Wales. He called his Consort's notice to the smart horsemanship of the Duke of Cumberland and others. To the Princess of Wales he paid peculiar attention, desiring her to stop the week out at Windsor. On her Royal Highness making some excuses, his Majesty said, "I'll take no excuse. No, no; you must stay. I have got something for your amusement every day—every day." Turning to Lord Winchilsea, the King said, "Winchilsea, Winchilsea, do you see my horse? I mounted him fresh since I came into the park, as I always do; I have had him twenty years, and he is good now. Do you know the secret? I'll tell you, Winchilsea. I know his worth, and I treat him accordingly. That's the right way, Winchilsea;" and then trotted off to somebody else. These are only mentioned as instances, to those who did not approach the King, of his free familiar conversation. He kept every one in good humour, and always spared them the trouble of making long ceremonious answers. On these *fêtes* he introduced a new Court costume, of garter blue and gold, with scarlet waistcoats, which was worn by most noblemen who were not in uniforms. It looked grand, but quite after the old heavy style. For some time before this, he had taken a great liking to the Royal Horse-Guards Blue, and had them constantly at Windsor. On common occasions it was his fancy to wear a Captain's uniform of that regiment; and he appointed for himself a troop, and Captaincy in it. He made them a present, in the Upper Castle-yard, of a superb pair of solid silver kettle-drums, and prefaced his gift with a short address to them, saying, among other things,—

"These are silver kettle-drums for you. I give them with pleasure. I know you will value them, and take proper care of them. I am sure of that!" The King sat his horse on this occasion so well, as to excite the strong approbation of a celebrated judge of equestrian performances who was present.

"A year afterwards his Majesty projected a more extensive excursion to the West of England than he had ever taken; but this was laid aside. He had been reading and talking a little about Queen Elizabeth's progresses."—*Times*.

"The following anecdote is extracted from an Edinburgh paper. We do not remember that it has been before stated, nor have we any means of deciding on its truth:—"The Egyptian expedition was planned almost exclusively by the late Lord Melville, and did not receive a cordial assent even from Mr Pitt himself. It was resolved upon in the Council by the narrowest majority, and the Sovereign gave his written assent in words like the following: 'I consent with the utmost reluctance to a measure, which seems to me to peril the flower of my army upon a distant and hazardous expedition.' Under such discouraging auspices that expedition was undertaken, which was the first in the lengthened war that served distinctly to show, that, whether the land or sea is beneath him, the Briton is more than a match for his enemies. On occasion of the King's breakfasting with Lord Melville at Wimbledon, during his retirement from office in Lord Sidmouth's administration, he took a public and generous mode of acknowledging that minister's merit. He filled a glass of wine, and, having desired the Queen and company to follow his example, he drank "to the health of the minister, who, in opposition to the opinion of his colleagues, and the avowed reluctance of his Sovereign, dared to plan and forward the Egyptian expedition." It is curious that this memorable

expedition, which was crowned with the victory of Alexandria, did not affect the treaty of Amiens to the extent that might have been expected. The French Ministers produced to Lord Cornwallis, after the signature, their despatch concerning the evacuation of Egypt. To this circumstance, at the time, the line was applied—

“A needless *Alexandrine* ends the song.” (*Times.*)

“The King had heard of a poor man at Windsor, who had occasionally a prayer-meeting at his house. He one day disguised himself, and went to the door, to inquire of the man into the nature of the meetings, and to ask permission to attend. The poor man, not knowing the illustrious individual with whom he was conversing, supposed him to be a person labouring under a concern about his immortal interests, and asked him to walk in: he then conversed with him on the great subjects of religion, with which the apparent stranger was much pleased; and, expressing his gratitude, asked if he might be permitted to come again; this proposition was agreed to, and he afterwards paid the man another visit, when the concerns of his soul, and of eternity, again occupied his attention. These visits were repeated, until one day, while the King was there, one of his attendants came to the house with a loud rap; which brought the poor man to the door; when he was surprised on being asked if His Majesty was there? to which the man innocently replied, No. On going in, he informed his strange visitor of the singular inquiry that had been made; on this, His Majesty explained the whole affair, thanked the good man for his kind attention and advice; and told him, as he was found out, he could no more enjoy his company, but must bid him farewell. His Majesty's regrets on this occasion were extremely great, as he de-

rived much pleasure from the simple and familiar piety of the poor man.”—(*Cobbin.*)

“ A minister of the gospel was, some time since, introduced into a valuable library belonging to his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex. On taking down a handsome volume of Matthew Henry’s Commentary, he made some remarks on the work; when the Royal Duke said, ‘ If you were to see ‘ a copy of this work which belongs to my venerable Father, you would see the whole of the margin ‘ filled throughout with notes and remarks, in ‘ His Majesty’s own hand-writing;’ adding, ‘ his ‘ Majesty has read through the five folio volumes ‘ three times.’ ”—(*Cobbin.*)

“ His Majesty entertained a great partiality for paintings, especially those which embraced scripture subjects. It is said to have been the King who first suggested to that eminent artist, Mr. West, the professional study of the scripture history, and desired him to bring his drawings to the palace for his inspection. Mr. West did so; and, coming at a time when the Sovereign had with him some dignified clergy of the highest order, the company were all gratified with the sketches, and particularly with their accordancy with the sacred text; affording proof of the painter’s acquaintance with the scriptures. ‘ And do you know how that was?’ said His Majesty to the prelate, who made the remark. ‘ Not exactly, your Majesty.’—‘ Why, my Lord, I will tell you: Mr. West’s parents were Quakers, and they teach their children to read the Bible very young.—*I wish that was more the case with you, my Lord.*’ ”—(*Cobbin.*)

“ The late King was in the habit of speaking to his domestics in the most condescending manner. On one occasion, when he was going to Windsor, he met a female belonging to his establishment; and as the servants were generally much pleased

with the accommodations at the Castle, he good humouredly saluted her with a congratulation, including a question if she was not glad they were going? To which she ventured to reply, '*Indeed, your Majesty, I am not. In my view, the GOSPEL is NOT preached at Windsor, and I can get no food for my soul.*'—'Then you shall not go,' said the King. Some time after, His Majesty spake to her again, 'You may go to Windsor now,' said the worthy Monarch, 'for you can get food for your soul.' His Majesty had discovered that some plain people met together there for worship, and had found out their principles, which he considered as congenial with those of his pious servant. The result proved that he was right, and the good woman was satisfied."—(*Cobbin.*)

"There was an inferior servant in the late King's family, some years ago, who was truly pious, and could not join the other servants in their festivities of singing and dancing, and playing at cards; and their dislike to her, had influenced a superior to dismiss her at a very short notice, paying her a month's wages. She had packed her things ready to depart, and was coming down stairs with her trunk and bundle, when she was met by the King, who asked her where she was going with them? she informed his Majesty that she had been dismissed the service. He asked her what she had done to occasion her quitting? to which she replied, that she could not conscientiously join the other servants in their entertainments, in consequence of which it was considered that she marred their comforts, and she was discharged. His Majesty said, no one should be so discharged who had done no wrong: he inquired into the case, and reinstated her."—(*Cobbin.*)

"After His Majesty was visited with the distressing calamity of blindness, some of his attendants were conducting him along one of the passages in

the Castle, when he heard a person moving at one side to stand up out of the way. The King immediately inquired who was there, and was answered by the person. He instantly recognized the voice; and calling the individual by name, said, 'I am quite blind.' The person could not refrain from tears; and replied, 'I am exceedingly sorry, please your Majesty.'—'But,' rejoined the pious Monarch, 'I am quite resigned; for what have we to do in this world but to suffer and to perform the will of the Almighty.'—(*Cobbin.*)

"With a view to raise an old domestic to a more lucrative situation, His Majesty removed him from London to Windsor; but after some weeks, observing that the man did not appear so cheerful as usual, he very condescendingly inquired if he were in good health: to which the servant replied, that he was.

"Some time afterwards, His Majesty still perceiving that he appeared unhappy, and being again informed that he was in good health, insisted on being made acquainted with the cause of his distress; when the man, who was a member of one of the Scottish churches in London, reluctantly told the King, that he was removed from his religious privileges, and that he could not enjoy them at Windsor, (as then circumstanced,) and begged to be sent back to his former situation, that he might be restored to them. To this the King graciously assented, and it took place."—(*Cobbin.*)

"An under gardener, with whom the King was accustomed familiarly to converse, was missed one day by His Majesty, who inquired of the head gardener where he was. 'Please your Majesty,' said the gardener, 'he is so very troublesome with his religion, and is always talking about it.'—'Is he dishonest,' said the King; 'does he neglect his work?'—'No, your Majesty, he is very honest, I have nothing to say against him for that.'—'Then

send for him again,' said the Monarch, 'why should he be turned off? *Call me defender of the faith!* DEFENDER OF THE FAITH! and turn away a man for his religion?' The King had learnt from this good man, that the place of worship where he attended, was supported by voluntary contributions, and was in the habit of giving him a guinea for the quarterly collection."—(*Cobbin.*)

"When the King was repairing his Palace at Kew, one of the workmen, who was a pious character, was particularly noticed by His Majesty, and he often held conversations with him of some length upon serious subjects. One Monday morning, the King went as usual, to watch the progress of the work; and not seeing this man in his customary place, inquired the reason of his absence. He was answered evasively, and, for some time, the other workmen avoided telling His Majesty the truth; at last, however, upon being more strictly interrogated, they acknowledged, that not having been able to complete a particular job on the Saturday night, they had returned to finish it on the following morning. This man alone had refused to comply, because he considered it a violation of the Christian sabbath; and, in consequence of what they called his obstinacy, he had been dismissed entirely from his employment. 'Call him back immediately,' exclaimed the good King; 'the man who refused doing his ordinary work on the Lord's day, IS THE MAN FOR ME. Let him be sent for.' The man was accordingly replaced, and the King ever after shewed him particular favour.—(*Cobbin.*)

"It had been proposed to Dr. Robertson, and likewise to Lord Lyttleton, (to write a History of England;) but neither of these writers appeared willing to embark in a concern of that magnitude, though all the assistance of government was freely offered, and would, beyond all doubt, have been amply granted, for the purpose of enabling the

historian to complete his design in a manner highly creditable to himself, and serviceable to the country. At this time, His Majesty stated the outline of his plan, which was to have all the materials printed, and manuscripts collected, and the extracts made with the greatest care, by persons employed at the public charge; and that from these collections, aided by all the help of our public libraries, with all the lights afforded by foreign writers, especially those in the northern parts of Europe, whose productions have been too heedlessly passed over, the historian should draw up his connected narrative, subject to the revision of different persons appointed to compare his performances with the authorities he professed to have followed."—(*Cobbin.*)*

* When the Editor commenced writing this Memoir of George III., he had not heard of this anecdote, so creditable to the taste and wisdom of that VIRTUOUS and VENERATED Sovereign,—but, being aware of the defects of the early periods of our annals, and conscious that the deficiency could only be supplied from the Records of the NORTHERN NATIONS of Europe, and having visited those realms, and collected some scarce and curious materials, it impelled him to prepare that original, historical dissertation, for the introductory portion of this work, which he believed would have been, in a high degree, *useful and agreeable.*



George IV.

CHAPTER XXIV.

SIXTH EPOCH—1811 to 1820.

Apostasy of the Whigs.—Intrigues of Ministers.—Sources of national demoralization.—Last Illness and Death of George III.—Extracts from “The Times.”

ONLY a short time previous to the establishment of a REGENCY, the editor of the leading WHIG journal was prosecuted by the Attorney-General, for having remarked, that in case of the King's decease, *his successor* might, if he pleased, become the most POPULAR prince that ever sat on the British throne!—The exclusion of the WHIGS from the cabinet of the Prince Regent, not only during the year of *probation*, but afterwards, forms one of the most extraordinary occurrences of the age; which, most assuredly, could not have happened, if that once great and powerful party had not previously lost their constitutional weight, credit, and influence, in the state, by their eagerness for office, and their gross contempt of the rights and liberties of the people. That party had never any power but what they derived from popular principles; and they appear to have been so weak as to suppose they might retain *that* power, after having abandoned *those* principles! Thence they *dropped*, merely from the operation of *internal decay*; and having no longer any powerful hold on public opinion, they became—*political impotents*. With no better claims than their *apostasy*, to the Prince's favour, can any reasonable being wonder at their *exclusion*? Whether the Ex-Chamberlain of the Court of Modena was right, or in error, as respected the fall of the WHIGS in 1807 having re-

sulted from their *ambi-dexterity* in the DELICATE INVESTIGATION, it is certain that their conduct on that occasion disappointed *all parties*, and deeply disgusted the Sovereign. And whatever EVILS may result from the anomalous and tremendous process against the same great Lady, which at this moment agitates so fearfully the '*universal British nation*,' and whom Mr. GEORGE CANNING so recently pronounced as being the '*GRACE, THE LIFE, THE ORNAMENT, OF POLISHED SOCIETY*,' (and nothing but EVILS of the very first magnitude can rationally be anticipated,) a heavy, heavy weight of responsibility lays upon the WHIGS; and the impartial historian will not fail to impute to *their* want of public virtue in 1806, the lamentable spectacle exhibited at Westminster in 1820. As a party, the WHIGS have lost, and deservedly lost, the respect and confidence of the nation, without having, by their self-abasement, rendered themselves welcome guests at Court. But it would be unjust and *unwise* to rejoice in their degradation, since it has removed the firmest barrier the people possessed against the encroachments of ARBITRARY POWER. May those men, ere *too late*, see their error, and measure back their steps! It is their only path to permanent political power. The unprincipled subserviency of the WHIGS,—their sneaking eagerness for office,—their ludicrous but evident aim at maintaining a fair reputation, whilst secretly they would wallow in all the gratifications of political corruption, have *embarrassed* their opponents, and, perhaps, led to those measures which nearly the whole nation deprecates, as teeming with ruin and disgrace; for the WHIGS stood, apparently ready to transact the business, if ministers had refused!

The Editor having thus, to the best of his judgment and abilities, and consistently with the impartiality promised in his Prospectus, given a sketch of the great producing *causes* which combined to

fix the ministers of George III. in the cabinet of George IV. he hastens to close his present labour. And, first, from a contemporaneous work, he presents an extract, tending to shew the justice of his recent observation, that the architects of the Regency Bill had so admirably contrived its restrictions, that the chances were greatly in favour of their—*keeping their places*.

“During the whole of these proceedings, (says the author,) the duty of the physicians was a most *delicate one*, which they performed with most extraordinary ability, and in the most honourable manner. In this Sir Henry Hallford was conspicuous; and we have seen a well-informed publication, which observes, that the last attack of His Majesty's illness has, perhaps, shewn Sir Henry's *address and talents* to more advantage than on any former occasion—‘*The medical attendance on the Royal sufferer has generally been DIRECTED by the ministerial influence of the day.*’ The authority of Lord Thurlow in his first illness (1789) committed him to the charge of Dr. Willis, whose system of coercion was carried on in *his own way*, while the rest of the physicians were mere lookers on. The severity of this half-medical character, made a powerful impression on the Royal mind; and the name, after his recovery, vibrated on his nerves with a harsh recollection, which he could at all times but ill disguise* when pronounced before him. The character of the minister who recommended him, and that of the physician himself, seem to have been cast in the same stern mould. In the final attack, the removal of Dr. Willis, and

* This quotation has tempted the Editor, so far to encroach upon an infirmity which has such peculiar claim to tenderness and secrecy, as to *add*, that the King, when signing a death-warrant, is said to have erased the name of a notorious ruffian condemned to die, and to have inserted in its place that of—*Dr. Willis!*

the recollection of past severity, gave a new feature to the medical attendance. Sir Henry took a lead in *the arrangements*, and conducted himself with such *delicacy*, prudence, and good sense, as to gain equally the esteem of the *Queen's cabinet*, as of the opposition at Carlton-House. As a mark of the Regent's sentiments and favour, he was appointed one of *his* physicians, and equally preferred in his attendance upon him, as he had been upon the Sovereign.

“ The case of his Majesty was one of that doubtful nature, on which no accurate judgment could be formed. *For a long time* prudence required that *the physicians should lean to the favourable side*. The former history of the complaint, and the natural constitution of the Royal sufferer, were circumstances in favour of amendment; while, on the contrary, the age of the patient, and *his peculiar feelings and situation as a Sovereign, unaccustomed to control*, equally preponderated on the other side. So long as *hopes* could be cherished, the physicians were bound *to hold out* a favourable issue to the wishes of the nation, and not, by *ill-timed* anticipations, to throw a gloom over the thinking part of the state, till time had *prepared them* for the event. The *business* therefore, under Sir Henry, was conducted with *much prudence and judgment*; and the examination of the physicians shewed much cordiality of opinion and matured consideration. The POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS *that have since taken place, have discovered the* ADVANTAGE *of this* TEMPORIZING plan, which it was FOUND ESSENTIAL *to pursue; and the plain dealing of another physician,* was even harmonized into this courtly line of behaviour at the time.

“ *The* CONTINUATION *of* MINISTERS *in* POWER *may be considered as* OWING, in part, to this *circumspect behaviour of the* PHYSICIANS, *which did not, even at the* LAST, *entirely banish all hope, or*

preclude the *idea that the SOVEREIGN MIGHT BE BROUGHT FORWARD!* Sir Henry shewed himself not less *adroit* as a *courtier*, than eminent as a physician; and now stands at the acmè of Royal favour, or in public estimation."—(*G. III., Court, and Family*, vol. II. p. 370 to 371.)

The reader must have a dull apprehension who cannot perceive in those sentences more meaning than the words seem to have been intended to convey. Whoever was the author, *he proves*, that if his premises are correct, that the reports of the Physicians were regulated by *secret motives*, and made subservient to the personal views and interests of ministers.

Where so much disguise and double-dealing appears to have prevailed, it is useless for the Editor to attempt to lift the veil. In a few years the TRUTH WILL OUT, and then posterity will cease to wonder how men whom the Regent was known to dislike, not only as statesmen, but personally, contrived not merely to conquer that aversion, so as to retain their places after the year of *noviciate* had expired, but even after the death of George III. It is also useless to seek after any AUTHENTIC account of the state of the venerable Monarch, who, during the last nine years of his life, was so completely withdrawn from the knowledge of his affectionate and sympathizing people.

The soundness of the moral principles of George the Third was never doubted, even by those who condemned the bias of his politics; nor has that Monarch always approved the measures of his minister. By the late ministers, Mr. SPENCER PERCEVAL and Mr. GEORGE ROSE, the Editor has been assured that it was with the utmost difficulty he could be induced to prefix his name to those saleable commercial licenses, which were passed from hand to hand in the enemy's ports, sold occasionally at enormously high prices, and fre-

quently applied *indiscriminately* to the protection of British, neutral, or the *enemy's* commerce!

That eminent civilian, Doctor PHILLIMORE, M. P. and Regius Professor of Civil Law at Oxford, followed the Editor in endeavours to check the torrent of perjury which a vile, polluted commerce, had let in upon the British nation. The learned Professor proved that *fifty thousand hostile seamen* were then employed under neutral flags, protected by Royal licenses; and that, in the case of the *Æolus*, Alspaper, master, Sir WILLIAM SCOTT, the Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, pronounced a sentence against the captors; adding, that the commerce of all the *world necessarily* and *unavoidably assumed disguise*. This was considered by the mercantile world, as a legal toleration and sanction of a system of commerce founded upon FRAUD, and sustained by FORGERY and PERJURY.

In March 1812, the Honourable WILLIAM HERBERT, M. P. for Cricklade, made a motion in the lower House, intended to show the enormity of the principle of judicially tolerating the most elaborate frauds, the most corrupt of perjury, and the ruinous tendency of such fearful crimes, with a view to the prohibition of those horrid practices. The Editor, anxious to aid a cause in which he had made such great sacrifices, wrote to Mr. Herbert, and sent several documents; in his reply, that gentlemen distinctly admitted that PERJURY and FORGERY, and all the corruptions to the perpetration of which the system led, were not only tolerated, but considered by the Admiralty-Court as acts NECESSARY and JUSTIFIABLE for the PROTECTION of COMMERCE.—It is not possible, on the ground of *policy* or *expediency*, for any nation to make a GREATER SACRIFICE; and if George III. had retained his faculties, it would NEVER have occurred. But the barriers of law and religion were thrown down, and perjury and forgery

were callings almost openly exercised in the metropolis, and the principal out-ports of Great Britain!

About this period, a work, not merely contemning the basis and superstructure of Christianity, but which attaches the worst of taints to the personal character of its Founder—Houston's '*Ecce Homo!*' was ushered into the world, and greedily bought up at a high price. DANIEL ISAAC EATON, then a grey-headed old man, became the publisher, on condition of receiving *half* the profit. For this act he was tried, convicted, and sentenced to stand in the pillory; where he was received by the spectators with shouts of applause: not that the whole concourse of spectators approved of the work; but, more probably, to mark their abhorrence of every thing resembling persecution, applauded the sufferer.

The greater part of that work was sold to young men connected with commerce; and as the system of false oaths and false papers, rapidly spreading from port to port, had penetrated to the *core* of the island, to Norwich, Nottingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, and the Potteries, the credit of Christianity every where declined; for it was IMPOSSIBLE for any human being thus to launch upon an ocean of blasphemy, without having previously renounced all belief in the Christian religion. At length, however, the horrible career of corrupt perjury received a death-blow by the seizure and condemnation of nearly six hundred ships of commerce, and their cargoes, by the Prussians and Russians, at Konnigsburg, Memel, Pillau, Liebau, and other Baltic ports, occasioning a loss of many millions to the merchants, ship-owners, and brokers, and crushing in its course, and utterly ruining, almost every person concerned.

More than *thirty thousand* forged documents of all descriptions were fabricated in London, to cover, by simulated papers, this devoted fleet.

Great Britain then stood trembling on the very brink of political perdition. Nor was it the wisdom of ministers which saved her, but the operation of the climate of Russia, whereby the armies of the mighty conqueror of Europe were destroyed; and which would, *inevitably*, have consumed all the military force of Europe, had it been exposed to the same severity.

Scarcely was the Emperor of the French driven from his splendid throne, than the fruits of the foul system of commercial crime, began to display itself in an endless variety of shapes. The anti-christian writings of Mr. THOMAS PAINE were sought after and purchased at an enormous price; whilst for a copy of '*Ecce Homo!*' which had been suppressed by the Court of King's Bench, no less a price than FIVE GUINEAS was offered!—The progress of Deism and Atheism being thus rapid and general, two obscure young men, neither of whom were printers, nor at all connected with the literature of the country, but wholly fired by an overwhelming spirit of avarice, determined, *for the sake of gain*, to brave the power of the law, and the dictates of conscience, and print and publish every work calculated to bring religion into contempt. Motives more base never actuated any pretended assertor of liberty: and no enemy to freedom ever devised an expedient more liable to operate its ruin. It is a fact, and capable of legal proof, that several of the persons who had been most active in this simulated traffic, and demoralized by their employment in forging the seals and signatures of princes or magistrates, and preparing every kind of forged documents whereby to carry on the polluted commerce of the day, were the most active in reviling Christianity, and striving to excite incipient insurrections amongst the suffering poor.

Whilst the Editor takes this opportunity to expose the horrible feature of a system—more dis-

graceful to Christianity than the worst corruptions of the Church of Rome in the worst of times, (because of the more illuminated state of mankind,)—he has no intention to mark his censures with any taint of party spirit: the evil began during the administration of Lord North,—it flourished under Mr. Pitt;—its rank luxuriance increased during the short period that the WHIGS were in power; and reached its acmè under the Regency. The late King was its enemy, and had he lived, and if his mental faculties had not been impaired, the soul-consuming system would never have attained the dreadful predominance which it exhibited in 1812.—The Records of the Admiralty Court;—the Reports of Admiralty Cases;—the Registers of Parliamentary Debates, relative to Licensed Trade, and Droits of Admiralty;—the various publications of Doctor Phillimore, of the Editor of this Memoir, and others, will demonstrate the enormity of the system, and the vast, the undefinable range of the moral contagion. The government of France, under Napoleon, whatever were its other faults, never sanctioned in any way or manner this foul pollution; whilst that of the United States, in their state-papers, long previous to the war which ensued, reproached, with great severity, the government of Great Britain, for demoralizing the commercial world, by its sanction of the baleful system of false papers and false oaths!

The Editor will not take up much more space with this subject; although its high importance certainly requires an ample exposition: not alone as affording a correct sketch of the tainted morals of the mercantile world, but to stimulate those who have the power, to set about the effectual EXTIRPATION of such crimes in the event of future naval wars; for the SLAVE TRADE, with all its deep-rooted iniquity, was infinitely less wicked

than an open and undisguised recognition of PERJURY, for the sake of commerce and revenue!

One feature of its demoralizing influence in 1812, may serve as a sample of many thousands which might have been quoted:—

At the period when the American non-intercourse bill was in agitation, a London house of trade fitted out a ship, and loaded her with British manufactures, intended for that market. The master, supercargo, mates, and seamen, were all drilled and disciplined, it is said, by a *civilian*, so as to enable them to appear, in case of capture, as Americans or Britons, as circumstances might require; and they were provided with forged American papers of every kind. If the ship were captured by a belligerent power, and the master and crew *worked her free*, by consistent, skilful, and well-connected PERJURY, a premium was assigned to each person, proportioned to his rank; exclusive of which, a superabundance of spirits and wine for the cabin and the forecastle, was provided. Here then was a complete school for perjury opened, and every kind of powerful stimulants administered, to lull the conscience, and smooth and decorate the road to perdition. The Editor could recite instances still more gross, but he does not wish to create *incredulity*; all that he aspires to is, to exhibit the outlines of the evil, in the hope that the subject will be taken up by more powerful advocates, whose sincere regard for public morals, and the credit of Christianity, may induce them boldly to grapple with this wicked system, and prevent its future recurrence.

Illustrative of the situation of George III. in 1813, the editor of the first memoir which appeared after the death of that Monarch, has stated, in allusion to the Emperor and the King who were then visitors at his residence,—“that he (George III.) was aware of the circumstance, and *wished much to see the two Royal personages; but his situation would not*

ADMIT of it, as it was upwards of two years since *His Majesty had been shaved. His beard was very long.* His usual dress was a silk night-gown, in which, from his age and physical infirmities, he reminded the spectator of the person and appearance of King Lear. *Her Majesty visited him once a week, but the Princesses had not seen him for a considerable time.* During the progress of the war, the news of the day was read to him; but latterly his want of sight had been further aggravated by total deafness;—he could no longer hear any news, nor amuse himself with the harpsichord, of which he was very fond, and on which he played with taste. In the summer he had some lucid intervals. The Queen desired to be informed when that was the case: she was so,—and on entering the room, she found him singing a hymn, and accompanying it on the harpsichord,—when he had finished, he knelt down and prayed ALOUD for *Her Majesty*, then for his family, and then for the nation, concluding with a prayer for himself, *that it might please God to avert his heavy calamity from him, but if not, to give him resignation to submit.* He then burst into tears, and his reason again fled.”

The publication quoted is decidedly ministerial, or it might be supposed some enemy to royalty had penned those sentences: they are mysterious, excite very painful recollections, and give birth to ideas that the situation of the isolated Monarch admitted of many ameliorations which he did not enjoy. It is scarcely possible for the most vivid imagination to picture a more mournful spectacle, than what this once great and mighty Sovereign presented in this awful state of humiliation.

In this state of more than common wretchedness, year after year rolled away; whilst the nation, by whom his memory was cherished with steady affection, knew no more of George III. than the

little that was contained in the monthly report of his physicians.

In 1818, it is asserted, that the gloom of his afflictions was diminished by the return of the sense of hearing; and that '*when in a composed state of mind, he could readily distinguish, and tell by their footsteps, the names of any one approaching, or passing him; and as but few were allowed to see him, he frequently amused himself, as they approached, with calling them by name.*'——When in a *tranquil state*, he generally ordered what his table should be furnished with.——A sunk walk had been made adjoining his suite of rooms, but for some time he had declined walking even there, on the principle it would be no gratification to him, *being deprived of sight*. The rooms which His Majesty and attendants then occupied, consisted of thirteen, extremely well ventilated, so that there could be no deficiency of air and exercise *within doors*.

By these accounts,—and they are corroborated by many other writers, it plainly appears the late King had many lucid intervals, and it might have relieved the dreary, the melancholy monotony of his life, if he had been placed where his apartment opened into a lawn, and where he might have enjoyed the balm of the fresh, the pure, the *living air*,—been regaled by the fragrance of flowers, and have *felt* the cheering influence of the sun. Surely such a situation might have been found! It may be true, that every comfort, every gratification, which the venerable sufferer was deemed capable of enjoying, was provided; but still, here and there, in the preceding extracts, appear certain indications likely to lead an observant reader to fear, that his state might have been rendered much less dismal. It would have been more satisfactory if a greater number of persons, to whom George III. was known

to be particularly and personally attached, had been allowed to visit him. And happier still, if he had voluntarily RESIGNED the reins of government when they had become too heavy for his hands. The seclusion in which the ancient Monarch was kept,—the gloom and mystery which hovered round his dwelling,—the guarded silence of his attendants, and their reserved, and often melancholy, air,—gave rise to innumerable rumours; and so little faith was put in the bulletins, that a considerable number of persons appeared firmly to believe George III. had been dead several years, ere his decease was officially announced to the nation!

Whilst the shattered hulk of the ROYAL GEORGE lay in this deplorable state, many great changes took place in his Family, which would have given inexpressible grief, had he been conscious of their occurrence.

Amongst those events which would have given the lonely Monarch the utmost pain, was the departure of the Princess of Wales from this kingdom! The Editor, in 1813, adopted the most summary and decisive steps to break up an incipient conspiracy, which he heard, from unquestionable authority, was in process. And when, in 1814, her departure was announced, apprehensive of her utter ruin resulting from that step, and believing, from the perfidy which had been exercised against her, that the same insidious counsellors who had advised that measure, might impel a host of secret spies to follow, and form *new conspiracies*, he wrote a letter of respectful admonition, not from any belief it would be noticed, but from a strong feeling,—impressed upon his mind, (by the communications of the female at Southend, in 1805, of Sir Levet Hansen in 1808, and of the Editor of '*the Statesman*' in 1813,) that she was forsaking her only safe refuge, and going—to meet destruction!

The marriage of her only child, the Princess

Charlotte, whose memory will for ever be fragrant and verdant—and the lamentable death of the young bride and her infant,*—were events which filled the whole land with mourning, without adding to the sorrows which had already weighed down their great and virtuous ancestor. Next, his Royal Consort dropped into the grave, and even her loss was unfelt by the suffering patriarch:† his second son, the Duke of York, was then appointed as guardian, or *custos*, of George III. and the enormous establishment at Windsor was reduced.

Of these mournful changes the old Monarch, it is said, “*was kept ignorant.*” If so, his mind must have retained some relic of its reasoning faculties, and could not be sunk into that torpid state which feels neither joy nor sorrow. Towards the close of the year 1819, when every day was expected to be the last of the life of George III. the death of his son the DUKE of KENT‡ was announced; and whilst the whole nation was deploring this unexpected decease, within one short

* This beloved and noble-minded Princess was born the 7th of January, 1796; married to Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, the 2d of May, 1816; and died, after having been delivered of a male child that was dead-born, the 6th of November, 1817, and was buried at Windsor.

† Queen Charlotte, the consort of George III. died at the old Palace at Kew, November 17, 1818, aged 71 years and six months.

‡ This popular Prince was born November 2, 1767; and died January 23, 1820. He married on the 29th of May, 1818, the Princess of Leiningen, sister to Prince Leopold of Cobourg, at Cobourg, and on the 11th of July, 1818, was re-married at Kew Palace; and, on the 24th of May, 1819, the Duchess of Kent gave birth to a daughter at Kensington Palace, who was named Alexandria Victoria.

The circumscribed limit of this work, and the memoirs already published,—and a desire to introduce original matter, tending to shew the source of national demoralization, with the view to its being REMEDIED,—will, it is hoped, apologize for this brief mention of the death of those illustrious characters.



*His Royal Highness
Kent and Strathearn.*

Born Nov. 2. 1767. Died Jan. 23. 1820.



*Her Royal Highness
The Duchess of Kent, &c.*

week, his venerable Father breathed his last, on the 29th of January, 1820!

Conscious of his utter inability to express, in terms equally eloquent, forcible, and appropriate, with the EDITOR of that great national journal—“*The Times*,” the feelings of the BRITISH NATION on the decease of George III. the Editor of this Memoir presents a few striking selections from that print. They were composed whilst yet the melancholy reflections excited by that demise, were in full operation, and glowing in the *heart* of the writer. These circumstances conveyed that FRESHNESS and VERDURE, it would be found very difficult to impart six months later. They are fine pieces of writing; worthy of the mighty dead, and the great nation that mourned his fate.

From “*The Times*,” Monday, 31st January, 1820.

“HIS most gracious Majesty King GEORGE III. expired on Saturday evening, at thirty-five minutes past eight o’clock. Thus has ended a course of personal suffering, long and affectionately deplored by every honest Englishman. The disease of the Royal Patient, was some years ago pronounced to be incurable, as it was in its nature terrible; and his escape from that dreary prison-house of the soul, of which no sane mind can fully understand the horrors, was open to him no otherwise than through the gate of death. This ought to be a motive for unfeigned thankfulness to Heaven that our beloved Sovereign has been released from the torments of a distracted spirit, and from the agonies of a lingering dissolution. But GOD ordained, that general reasoning should prove powerless against the emotions of involuntary grief. Although the time to weep for a virtuous man is not so properly when he ceases to exist, as when his existence ceases to be a source of comfort to himself, or of usefulness to others, yet will our late Monarch’s actual death be deeply, though perhaps not rationally, mourned. We doubt if there is an individual amongst our countrymen whose abstract calculations of good and evil will not be disturbed by a sentiment of ungovernable sorrow, when we announce to him that GEORGE III. is no more. Buried as he had been from the

eyes of all mankind—unable as he was, unquestionably, to protect the interests of the State by his counsels, or those of religion and good morals by his virtues—though ‘he dwelt in darkness and in the *shadow* of death,’ he held a real though latent empire in the recesses of every English heart, and has never until this melancholy moment been lost irrevocably to the grateful love, the hopes, the sympathies, and prayers, of his people.

“By those of the KING’s subjects who were conversant with history, or could draw comparisons between living princes, our late Sovereign was esteemed for the happy influence of his brave and upright character on the security and prosperity even of this free state: but it was the exemplary beauty of his private life that endeared him to the bulk of the nation. The people of England, of all classes, had a familiar knowledge for many years of his simple tastes, his useful habits, his temperate indulgences—his cheerful, kind, and unaffected manners—his faithful fulfilment of every social obligation, his attachment to his domestic duties as a husband and a father, his assiduous discharge of the functions of sovereignty, his unostentatious munificence to the wretched, his zeal for religion, his piety to GOD.

“All of us—except the very old, who had ceased to mingle in the affairs, or to lead the feelings of society—were born beneath the sceptre of GEORGE III. The whole people of this country, with still fewer exceptions, were formed and educated since he began to govern. His name and image had identified themselves with our earliest remembrances, and made part of our happiest associations. From tradition only had we any knowledge of the times which preceded him. He was an heir-loom handed down to us from antiquity. He was the great, the living—almost the sole remnant of our loved forefathers—of that hallowed generation of parents and instructors, who had given us life, and fostered our infancy, and sowed in our youthful minds the seeds of loyalty and piety—of truth and honour. To us, the offspring of his reign, therefore, the death of our aged Monarch is as if the paternal roof had fallen in, and left our chambers desolate. To other nations, the near and watchful observers of England, it will be as if some towering rock, hoary with time and hardened by the tempest—some land-mark immemorial, had sunk into the earth, and changed the bearings of the whole visible horizon.

“King GEORGE III. retained his faculties only to witness the dawn of that splendour which his consistent and intrepid

policy towards foreign powers had prepared for the arms of England. He was not rewarded for the virtues of a long life, and the anxieties of a restless and stormy reign, by beholding those proofs of his own wisdom which are destined to immortalize his memory. The triumphs of WELLINGTON were rich in blossom, but had not yet borne their appropriate fruits. The seeds of BUONAPARTE's downfall, on another side, were already sown in his preparations for an attack upon the Russian empire, and in his intolerable tyranny over the central nations of Europe. The ripening of that abundant harvest also was withheld by Providence from the sight of our afflicted Sovereign. Yet was he saved from many griefs by the same hand which rendered him unconscious of these signal benefits. An American war was approaching when his malady seized him: he thus escaped the mortification of knowing with what imbecility his service was carried on, and by how improvident and unwise a peace that national conflict was concluded. His MAJESTY was further spared the unhappiness of knowing what unseemly agitations have troubled our internal tranquillity—what privations have distressed the labouring classes of his subjects—and what alarming encroachments on British liberty have impaired the bulwarks of that noble constitution, which from the earliest period of his government, commanded his reverence and forbearance: still fortunate, he did not live to feel the pangs of widowhood, after fifty-eight years of happy wedlock—nor to weep over two generations of his children mouldering in the untimely tomb.

“The good KING possessed that accidental felicity which is considered essential to the completeness of every human reputation. He had not merely great and useful qualities; but they were qualities adapted to the position in which he was placed, called for by the period during which he acted, and congenial to the character of the nation over which he ruled. Henry IV. of France would be to mankind at large a far more dazzling and captivating Monarch; but he would not have so well suited the meridian of the people of England, nor the exigencies of the present age. His religion was not sufficiently serious, his morals were not austere enough, to rebuke and confound the licentious infidel, the living pestilence of the 18th and 19th centuries. The sober dignity of the English Court, while GEORGE III. threw round it the mantle of his domestic affections and well-regulated life, represented truly the characteristic virtues of this grave and manly nation, and powerfully encouraged and sustained them. He did not, like some of his predecessors since the Revolu-

tion, imprison one Queen, nor neglect another, nor lavish public honours on foreign prostitutes, nor offend the matron purity of English wives and mothers, by the dull indecency of monotonous and tasteless vice. We mean GEORGE III. no dishonour—we do him none by saying, that the familiar name of ‘JOHN BULL’ was applicable specifically to the whole constitution of his mind and habits. He was an Englishman all over—but an Englishman worthy to be at the head of a nation of English. There are none of our kings to whom, in respect of masculine force and moral excellence, he may not be advantageously compared.

—— ‘Micat inter omnes
Julium sidus.’

“It was the glory of our lamented Monarch to shun the weak example of those who preceded him: but it will, we trust, be the pride of his successors to follow the just example he has left.

“Much might be said on an other point, on which we forbear to expatiate, viz. the political and personal relations which existed at sundry periods of the late reign, between GEORGE III. and some distinguished branches of his illustrious family. We do not omit to mention these circumstances because of their insignificance to the subject before us, but because their importance, as matter of history, does not appear to us to outweigh the indelicacy of bringing them under discussion at an hour like this.

“LAST ILLNESS AND DEATH OF HIS LATE MAJESTY.”

“The minute information on this subject, which the importance of the occasion demanded, has not been supplied from the regular and official sources, and we fear that our own are very inadequate to satisfy the great anxiety felt by the public on account of this omission, the causes of which will, we have no doubt, be regularly explained. The first signs of decay in the excellent constitution enjoyed by his late Majesty appeared about two months ago, when, after suffering much from a severe cold, our venerable Monarch was attacked by a slight species of diarrhoea, which however, after some days, yielded to anodyne and astringent medicines, and all apprehensions with respect to it ceased. In the commencement of the present month, the following bulletin was published, and

was meant probably to prepare the public mind for a change in the health of the Sovereign:—

“ *Windsor-Castle, Jan. 1.*

“ His Majesty’s disorder has undergone no sensible alteration. His Majesty’s bodily health has partaken of some of the infirmities of age, but has been generally good during the last month.”

“ This official notice, however, was very far from producing the impression of immediate danger; and indeed, compared with the reports that had previously obtained circulation, tended rather to induce the belief of a reinstatement. All the intelligence we have been able to collect from oral information and other sources, leads us to the conviction that it was not till several days had elapsed from the publication of the bulletin, that His late Majesty’s symptoms became a source of peculiar anxiety and solicitude to his medical attendants. At that period his disorder returned with greater violence, and, in despite of the utmost skill of his physicians, several of whom remained in constant attendance, continued from day to day to make visible inroads on the health and strength of the Royal patient. To the inhabitants of Windsor, who had opportunities of observing the increased vigilance that pervaded all the movements about the Castle, the suspicion soon infused itself that an unfavourable change had taken place in the health of His Majesty. The lords in waiting, who were Lord St. Helens and Lord Henley, were noticed to remain longer at their post, and to quit their charge for shorter period than usual. His Majesty, in the early access of his second attack, rejected animal food. The most nourishing diet, in every form that could be devised to tempt his appetite, was prepared for him, but seemed to fail in its purpose of sustaining or recruiting exhausted nature. A few days before his death he became reduced almost to a skeleton. The general decay to which his constitution was now subjected, showed itself in the usual symptoms. It was evident that his blood was becoming torpid and chilly; for though artificial means were used to raise the temperature of his apartments, yet he continued to manifest increasing suffering from cold. Among other distressing proofs of his debility and approaching dissolution, he lost his remaining teeth: he also lost his appetite, which had been previously so hearty, that it had been usual to medicate his food in order to procure digestion, and prevent any injury from the tendency to excessive indulgence. It was not, however, till within two

days of his decease that he kept his bed entirely, though, for several days past, he had not risen at his accustomed early hour. On the night of Friday last the symptoms became so alarming that Sir Henry Halford came express to town very early on Saturday morning, and had an immediate audience of the Duke of York. The consequence was, that His Royal Highness's carriage was immediately ordered, and without a moment's delay he set forward with post horses for Windsor-Castle. His Royal Highness appeared agitated as he got into the coach; and there was an air of mystery and hurry in the whole affair, which gave but too much reason to anticipate the distressing nature of Sir Henry Halford's communication. At ten o'clock on Saturday morning, the medical attendants, and the Lords in waiting, felt assured that the last hour of the venerable sufferer was approaching, and that the day must terminate his mortal career. As the evening advanced, His Majesty became gradually weaker and weaker, but apparently without the slightest pain, till nature was quite exhausted; and, at 35 minutes past 8 o'clock, he breathed his last, without suffering even a struggle. The decay, though rapid, was unaccompanied with any violent and sudden changes; so that none of that physical excitement had occurred, which sometimes, in cases of mental derangement, restores to sufferers in their last moments a transient use of their understanding, and imbitters the parting hour with a consciousness of their late dreadful situation. Our venerable Sovereign was spared this last pang: there was no returning visit of his reason, which could only have served to torture him with a sense of what he had lost, as well as what he was about to lose. It is true that, from this insensibility, he could not have the melancholy satisfaction of witnessing by his death-bed, the affectionate duty of the Duke of York; but then he was saved from the anguish of missing the aged partner of his throne, his beloved grandchild, and that estimable Prince whose manly virtues so nearly resembled his own.

“At the moment of his dissolution, there were present, besides the usual attendants, His Royal Highness the Duke of York, Lord Henley, Lord Winchelsea, all the physicians, and General Taylor. In the Palace were the Duchess of Gloucester, the Princesses Augusta and Sophia, and some reports add, the Duchess of York. Immediately after the decease, the Duke of York retired, and despatched General Cartwright with the mournful and important intelligence to the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness did not himself leave the Castle till yesterday morning. The Duchess of Glouces-

ter proceeded to Bagshot about half an hour after the death of her Royal Parent: her sisters remained behind. Doctors Baillie, Heberden, and Willis, were yesterday at the Castle, but we could not learn whether they are likely to prepare and issue any detailed statement respecting the death of their Royal patient. Though all the physicians were present at the dissolution of the King, yet up to Friday those only were in attendance on whom that duty devolved in regular rotation; if we except the occasional journeys, during the last week, made to and fro by Sir Henry Halford, for the purpose, as was supposed, of communicating authentic information to the Prince Regent. We know not with whom the blame rests, but rest, we think, it must somewhere, that the natural and laudable anxiety of the public should have been so little heeded, as to suffer the great and melancholy event, which interests them all, to come upon them with the shock of a sudden calamity.

“Up to a late hour last night, no orders, as far as we could learn, had been received at Windsor respecting the ceremony of embalming the body of our late Sovereign. His Majesty is said to have expressed a strong dislike of the offensive practice; but perhaps it may not be thought right to deviate from a custom so long established.”

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LATE KING.

“George III. was in height about five feet ten inches and a half, and of a robust person. In his youth he was considered handsome, being of a fair and blooming complexion; but his face and eyes were too prominent. His hair was light flaxen; his eyes were grey; his eye-brows white; his lips thick; his teeth white and regular; his mouth large and wide. Latterly his face was red, and often of a deep copper colour. His countenance, when grave, had an air of deep melancholy; but, when cheerful, it indicated a degree of frivolity approaching to weakness.”—(*Cobbin's Georgiana.*)

CHARACTERISTIC SKETCHES.

“THE TIMES,” 2D FEB. 1820.

“THE countenance George III. gave to his successive ministers, was but slightly influenced by the degree of popularity or odium of which they were the objects. It has been said, indeed, that their favour at Court was inversely as their estimation out of it; that the aristocracy of name and talent was dreaded no less than that of rank and property; and that Mr. PITT was looked upon for many years with worse than indifference by his Royal Master. His successor, Mr. ADDINGTON, was regarded by the King with much indulgence, *for he excited no jealousy*; and by the country with some compassion, because it was thought that his conscious incapacity had made him reluctant to undertake the office of Prime Minister. But the favourite maxim of the late reign is represented to have been the *rigorous EXCLUSION of the great Whig families from power*. This improvement on the policy of GEORGE I. and II. has been accounted for in various ways. For instance: that it was an arbitrary prejudice instilled by Lord BUTE, and too early fixed in the Royal mind, to be unsettled: yet the head of the house of RUSSELL was employed to negotiate the peace of Paris, in the very meridian of Lord BUTE's ascendancy. Was he sent there expressly to be disgraced?—Again, the PRETENDER had gone out of fashion—the house of STUART became extinct—and it was no longer necessary to conciliate the aristocracy of England. This may account for such a prepossession, if the existence of the feeling itself be antecedently proved. But that may well be disputed. The Whig *principle* was never preferred for its own

sake, even by those of our English Sovereigns who owed their crowns to its recent and victorious operation. WILLIAM III. himself exclaimed, that 'Toryism was the true religion of a king.' GEORGE I. and II. employed WALPOLE as their minister, because they thought him the ablest man of his time, and carried on the government without much trouble to his master. The war of 1756 confounded, as usual, some of those differences of domestic party, which might have otherwise agitated the latter years of GEORGE II.'s reign. But we see nowhere a predilection for the more abstract Whig *doctrines*, and not a great deal for Whig ministers, as such, at any era since the death of King WILLIAM, except during the early days of GEORGE I. The truth is this—the *power of the Crown has increased to such a pitch, that for many years past the King, or other Sovereign of England, has found himself able to carry on the Government by the intrinsic WEIGHT and PATRONAGE of OFFICE, without calling in the less manageable influence of hereditary rank, or extensive property, throughout the nation.* A King of England, not driven to extremes, will naturally be afraid to employ the aristocracy, whether Whig or Tory; since that would be to arm with the powers of the Crown those who are the natural enemies to its encroachments, and thus to establish an undue preponderance in one great member of the state. The King is reported to have said of Mr. Addington—'*He has no dependence but on me.*' The same principle has been steadily acted on throughout. The aristocracy got in on three occasions, but were dismissed before they had time to breathe. The appointment of a successor to Lord Rockingham, without consulting the wishes of the Whig ministers who survived him, was the contrivance through which the first resignation was effected: the India-bill afforded an equally favourable opportunity in the second: the

Catholic question, in the last. But the cause of their expulsion was the same in all these instances. The Crown was unwilling to reinforce the hands of those whom it regarded the natural rivals of its authority. It had become strong enough to act by a body of instruments, who had no ties or obligations but to it alone. Official patronage, no matter to whom intrusted, has during thirty-five years proved more than a match for hereditary or proprietary power. If the present Cabinet were out of office, it might be difficult to find a set of public men more destitute of that ascendancy which springs from wealth, reputation, or Parliamentary connexion. Yet how long have they ruled the British empire? what majorities have they commanded? what hundreds of millions have they spent? what political shocks have they survived, throughout the most critical and eventful period in the annals of modern Europe? Whether this be an evil, we shall not now inquire—or whether it be a system which calls for change. But sure we are, that it is one which, happy or unfortunate, cannot be overturned while the composition of the House of Commons remains unaltered, and the patronage of the Crown secured from any chance of diminution.”

* * * * *

“ The present season is a season of ceremonies, in which the mournful and the agreeable may seem to unite. Two Royal funerals, and an accession to the Crown? How nearly allied are the extremes of human misery and grandeur—the grave and throne! And how in the occurrences of this world, ever varying but still the same, does one important event overwhelm and produce a temporary oblivion of its predecessor! The Duke of Kent, who is now gone to his long home, is almost as much forgotten by the generality of the nation, as if he had died a year ago. The decease of the

aged King, and the accession of his successor, occupy all thoughts. Some reigns are said to commence joyously: this must be spoken with reference only to the abstract situation of the nation; for no man, endowed with the proper sensibilities of our nature, can, even on his first obtaining possession of a crown, fail of feeling the most melancholy sensations, when he sees himself surrounded by the funeral pomp of his predecessor. The flattery of surrounding friends or sycophants, the shouts of sottish mobs, or the honest applause of loyal subjects, may stun his ears; but his heart will still silently revert to the more solemn scene of departed Royalty. The narrative of present occurrences will be the history also of the future: the actors only will be changed. The present King will fill the place of the deceased, and another will supply his place. The funeral trappings which will then surround his person, will be as grave as those which he now sees; and the shouts which will greet his successor, be as loud as those which he now hears. If thoughts like these could escape the observation of any, yet must they of necessity, from the mature age of our present King, obtrude themselves most forcibly on his mind. But youth affords no charter against the common lot of mortality. Amongst those who were present at Carlton-House to hear the proclamation read, was Prince Leopold: the official account says, ‘surrounded by his officers of state, and supported by his Royal brothers and Prince Leopold, appeared His Majesty King George IV.’ What thoughts must have crowded into the bosom of that Prince on witnessing such a scene! and with what painful activity, after he had retired, must his memory have reverted to the afflictive incidents of his own life,—his high alliance now rent asunder,—his splendid prospects for ever blasted!

But the only use of melancholy reflections is to

draw from them resolutions of good. The uncertainty of human life is an argument for the zealous employment of that which is allowed to us. Any one may go through what there is of ceremony in an accession, or a coronation, with propriety and decorum. The real functions of the kingly office are of a different character. Our present Sovereign finds a generous people, victorious but distressed. It is this people whom it must be the object of His Majesty's reign to render easy and prosperous: and to effect so good a purpose will require at once the prudence of age and the energy of youth."

The preceding extracts leave nothing more to add, to complete a bold, correct, and animated portraiture of George III. Amongst the innumerable tributes rendered by native poets to the memory of this beloved and revered Sovereign, the following appeared one of the most pleasing, viz.—

THE CONTRAST.

Written under Windsor Terrace, Feb. 17, 1820.

(*From Baldwin's London Magazine.*)

I SAW him last on this terrace proud,
Walking in health and gladness;
Begirt with his Court, and in all the crowd
Not a single look of sadness.

Bright was the sun, and the leaves were green,
Blithely the birds were singing;
The cymbal replied to the tambourine
And the bells were merrily ringing.

I have stood with the crowd beside his bier,
When not a word was spoken;
But every eye was dim with a tear,
And the silence by sobs was broken.

I have heard the earth on his coffin pour,
To the muffled drum's deep rolling;
Whilst the minute-gun with its solemn roar
Drowned the death-bell's tolling.

The time he walked in his glory thus,
 To the grave I have seen him carried,
 Was an age of the mightiest change to us,
 But to him, a night unvaried.

We have fought the fight:—from his lofty throne
 The foe of our land we have tumbled;
 And it gladdened each eye, save his alone,
 For whom that foe was humbled.

A daughter beloved—a queen—a son,
 And a son's sole child, have perish'd;
 And sad was each heart, save the only one
 By whom they were fondest cherish'd.

For his eyes were seal'd, and his mind was dark,
 And he sat in his age's lateness,
 Like a vision thron'd, as a solemn mark
 Of the frailty of human greatness.

His silver beard o'er a bosom spread,
 Unvex'd by life's commotion;
 Like a yearly lengthening snow-drift, shed
 On the calm of a frozen ocean.

Still o'er him oblivion's waters lay,
 Though the stream of time kept flowing;
 When they spoke of the King, 'twas but to say,
 That the old man's strength is going.

At intervals thus the waves disgorge,
 By weakness rent asunder,
 A piece of the wreck of the Royal George,
 For the people's pity and wonder.

He is gone at length—he is laid in the dust,
 Death's hand his slumbers breaking;
 For the coffin'd sleep of the good and just,
 Is a sure and blissful waking.

His people's heart is his funeral urn;
 And should sculptur'd stone be denied him,
 There will his name be found, when in turn,
 We lay our heads beside him.

H.

APPENDIX.

Explanation of the References of the Plate exhibiting *The REGALIA of ENGLAND.*

(1.) *St. Edward's Crown*.—This diadem has been used in each coronation subsequent to the Restoration. It is not the same crown that Edward the Confessor is said to have worn.

(2.) *The Queen's Crown*,—being that with which the late Queen was crowned.

(3.) *The Crown of State*,—worn by the King whenever he meets the parliaments.

(4.) *The Queen's Circlet*,—worn by her late Majesty when walking in procession to be crowned.

(5.) *The Queen's rich Crown*,—worn by her late Majesty after she had been crowned, and on her return to, and stay in, Westminster-Hall.

(6.) *The King's Coronation Ring*,—made of plain gold, containing a large table violet ruby, on which a plain cross is enchased.

(7.) *The Queen's Coronation Ring*.

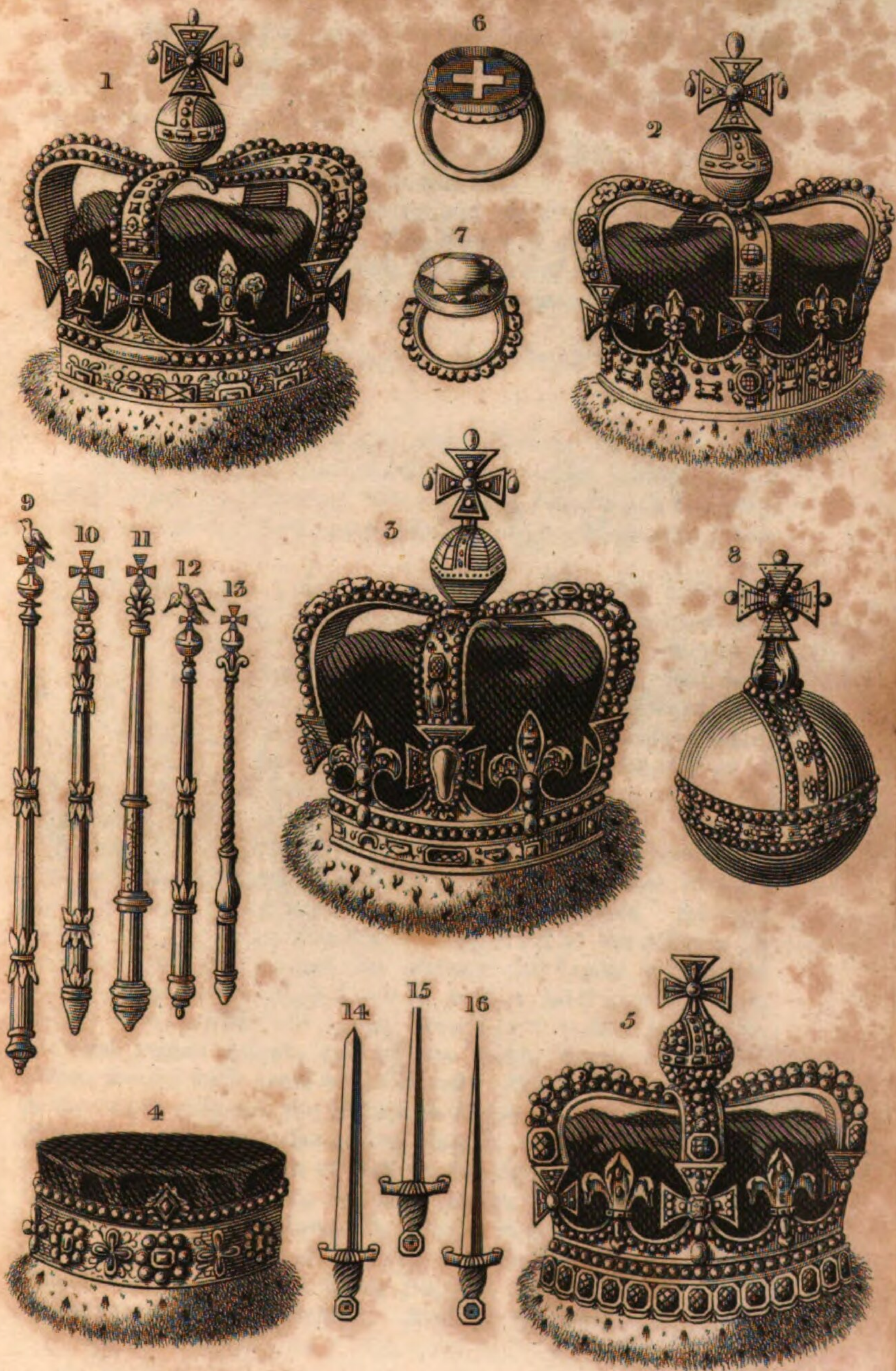
(8.) *The Orb, Mound, or Globe*,—it was placed in the late King's right hand immediately before he was crowned: the height of the orb and cross is eleven inches.

(9.) *The Queen's Ivory Rod*,—a sceptre of white ivory; is three feet one inch and a half in length: the pomel and ornaments are of gold, as are also the mound and cross at the top: the dove (with closed wings) is enamelled white.

(10.) *St. Edward's Staff*—or sceptre, is made of gold; is in length five feet, short of half an inch: the foot is of steel, four inches and a quarter. The ornaments are of gold; the diameter about four-fifths of an inch.

(11.) *The Queen's Sceptre, with the Cross*,—is made of gold; in length it is *two feet ten inches*, and adorned with brilliants and other precious stones.

(12.) *The King's Sceptre with the Dove*,—is made of gold; it is three feet seven inches in length, three inches in circumference at the handle, and two inches and a quarter at the top; it is adorned with brilliants and other gems; and surmounted with the figure of a *Dove, with expanded wings, as the emblem of mercy*.



The Regalia of England.

(13.) *The King's Sceptre with the Cross*, or Sceptre Royal,—is constructed of gold, the handle plain, the upper part wreathed; it is thirty-three inches and a quarter long, its diameter the same as the last.

The Swords carried naked before the King in the coronation procession, are three in number.

(14.) The first in precedency and *dignity*, is the pointless sword, called *Curtana*, or, *The Sword of Justice*.

(15.) The instrument called, *The Sword of Spiritual Justice*, commonly called the *second* sword, is pointed, but somewhat obtuse.

(16.) *The Sword of Justice of the Temporality*,—or third sword, is sharp-pointed.

Exclusive of the Regalia delineated in the plate, *The Coronation Chair* is most worthy of particular notice; and of which nearly the whole of the following description has been taken (as also the preceding extracts) from *Thomson's Coronation*; i. e.

King Edward's Chair,—(commonly called St. Edward's Chair,) is an ancient seat of solid hard wood, with back and sides of the same, variously painted, in which the Kings of Scotland were in former times constantly crowned: but having been brought out of that kingdom by King Edward I. in the year 1296, after he had totally overcome John Baliol, King of Scots, it has ever since remained in the Abbey of Westminster, and has been the Royal Chair in which the succeeding Kings and Queens of this realm have been inaugurated. It is in height six feet seven inches; in breadth at the bottom thirty-eight, and in depth twenty-four inches; from the seat to the bottom is twenty-five inches. At nine inches from the floor is a board, supported at the corners by as many lions. Between the seat and this board is enclosed a stone, commonly called Jacob's, or the fatal marble stone, which is an oblong of about twenty-two inches in length, thirteen inches broad, and eleven inches deep; of a steel colour mixed with some veins of red. History relates that it is the stone whereon the Patriarch Jacob laid his head in the plain of Luz. It is also added, that it was brought to Brigantia, in the kingdom of Galicia, in Spain; in which place Gathol, King of Scots, sat on it as his throne. Thence it was conveyed into Ireland, by Simon Brech, who was King of Scots about seven hundred years before Christ's time; from thence into Scotland by King Fergus, about three hundred and seventy years afterwards. And in the year 850 it was

placed in the Abbey of Scone, in the Sheriffdom of Perth, by King Kenneth, who caused it to be enclosed in this wooden chair, and a prophetical verse to be engraved, of which the following is a translation :

“ *Should fate not fail, where'er this stone is found,*
 “ *The Scots shall monarchs of that realm be crown'd.*”

This is the more remarkable, by its having been fulfilled in the person of King James the First, grandfather to the Princess Sophia Electress Dowager of Hanover, grandmother to King George the Second, who was grandfather to his late Majesty, King George the Third.

This antique Regal chair having (together with the golden Sceptre and Crown of Scotland) been solemnly offered by King Edward the First, (of the Plantagenet dynasty,) in 1297, to Edward the Confessor, has ever since been kept in the chapel called by his name.

Amongst the Coronation Regalia there are,

The Spurs,—called the great golden spurs.

The Coronation-Robes are principally as follow:—

The Mantle, Dalmatica, or, *open Pall*,—is made of a very rich gold and silver brocaded tissue.

The Supertunica, Surcoat, or *close Pall*,—is a coat with plain sleeves, of a very thick rich cloth of gold tissue.

The Armilla,—(Bracelet or Jewel,) is made of the same cloth of tissue.

The Colobium Sindonis, (or *Surplice*,)—is without sleeves, and is the last garment put upon the King after the anointing.

The Surcoat,—of rich crimson satin.

The Buskins—are made of cloth of tissue, as the *Supertunica*: the height of them is eighteen; compass at the top, fifteen; and the length from the heel to the toe, eleven inches.

The Ampulla,—which contains the holy oil, is in the form of an eagle, with the wings expanded, standing on a pedestal, all of pure gold and finely chased.

The Anointing Spoon—is likewise of pure gold.

FINIS.

~~scribble~~



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